



January 27, 2026

KANSAS HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Oral in-person testimony concerning the Kansas Aviation Tax Credit reauthorization

Chairman Tarwater, Vice Chair Ward, Ranking Member Sawyer Clayton, and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon. My name is Sam Sackett. I am the senior manager for Government Relations at Boeing Wichita. As the largest private-sector employer in Kansas, The Boeing Wichita site is proud to employ more than 12,500 people in the state. Our highly skilled employees engineer, design, and build complex aerostructures for both commercial and defense customers.

Thank you for providing us with an opportunity to testify about the Kansas Aviation Tax Credit program that serves as a unique catalyst enabling a strong aerospace talent pipeline by incentivizing Kansans to explore high-paying aviation jobs in the state.

We appreciate Chairman Tarwater's long-standing support for the aviation industry, specifically his leadership in 2021 and again in 2022 when this tax credit program was originally authorized.

Following enactment of the Kansas Aviation Tax Credit program in 2022, Spirit AeroSystems –now Boeing Wichita – began promoting this program with prospective employees as one of our recruitment tools. Our company posts information about the Tax Credit on every Kansas-based job requisition. This has been a standard process for several years as the company markets available positions to prospective employees both in-state and out-of-state. Our Wichita HR recruitment team then highlights the employee Aviation Tax Credit during the job-offer process to reinforce the total value proposition being offered.

At the beginning of each tax season, we also send a notice to newly hired employees reminding them of the Kansas Aviation Tax Credit as another way to encourage retention of our workforce.

However, absent an extension by the Legislature, the Kansas Aviation Tax Credit program is scheduled to sunset in 2026.

As an employer, Boeing Wichita does not have access to employee tax information, so the company cannot provide quantitative measures on the utilization of the program among its workforce. But the antidotal information we receive from employees suggests it has been a positive factor in helping candidates choose to apply for jobs and begin careers at Boeing Wichita. We believe this is true for our Kansas aviation suppliers as well.

We respectfully request your support to reauthorize the Kansas Aviation Tax Credit program and look forward to working with you to ensure our industry is able to continue promoting aviation jobs in the state of Kansas.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify. I look forward to answering your questions.