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The Honorable Sean Tarwater
Chairman, House Commerce, Labor & Economic Development Committee
300 SW 10th Ave., Room 274-W
Topeka, Ks. 66612
Submitted to: Commerce.Labor.Econ@house.ks.gov
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Written testimony only IN SUPPORT of HB 2464

Chairman Tarwater and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the Kansas Aviation Tax Credit Program, a targeted, pro-growth policy that strengthens one of Kansas' most important industries and helps secure our position as the *Air Capital of the World*.

The aviation sector is a cornerstone of the Kansas economy—supporting high-skill, high-wage jobs, attracting global investment, and anchoring our advanced manufacturing base. The Aviation Tax Credit Program is a smart, focused tool that helps Kansas compete for talent in a highly competitive national and global market.

Aviation employees gain significant benefits under this initiative, such as making Kansas more affordable, reducing cost in training and upskilling, and long-term stability to the industry.

For the employer, it serves as a powerful recruiting tool for aviation employees, especially maintenance technicians, that are considering relocation into Kansas. It also clearly shows our employees the value the state of Kansas puts on this industry.

It rewards individuals who have invested in their own skills and encourages them to bring those skills to Kansas—or to stay here rather than leaving for competing states.

The benefits of the Aviation Tax Credit Program are clear:

- Strengthening the aviation workforce pipeline. The credit helps employers recruit and retain the skilled workers they need to remain globally competitive.



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- Supporting regional economic growth. Aviation jobs have a powerful multiplier effect, supporting suppliers, small businesses, and local communities across the Greater Wichita region and beyond.
- Reinforcing Kansas' brand as the Air Capital of the World. This program signals that Kansas is serious about aviation, talent, and long-term industry leadership.
- Helping workers keep more of what they earn. By reducing state income tax liability, the program makes Kansas more affordable and attractive for workers and their families.

In a moment when other states are aggressively courting aviation and advanced manufacturing employers, Kansas cannot afford to be complacent. The Aviation Tax Credit Program is a targeted, fiscally responsible way to keep Kansas competitive, grow our talent base, and sustain a signature industry that defines our state's identity and economic future.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to **support and maintain the Kansas Aviation Tax Credit Program.**

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