



**Testimony to House Committee on Health and Human Services
Written Only Testimony Supporting HB 2068
February 5, 2025
The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce**

The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce (KC Chamber) urges the House Committee on Health and Human Services to favorably pass HB 2068 which will enact the cosmetology compact to provide interstate practice privileges. This will make the transition of a move easier for those moving to relocate to Kansas including members of our armed services and their spouses, while also increasing the pool of qualified workers to fill jobs in the greater Kansas City area and across the state. The KC Chamber, representing nearly 2,000 businesses (40% of which are in Kansas), and its Board of Directors, have identified workforce as a critical and immediate need to fill the over tens of thousands of open jobs in the greater Kansas City area with qualified workers. Additionally, the KC Chamber's Military Affairs Committee, composed of top employers and veterans from these organizations, has charged the Chamber to advocate for expanded licensing reciprocity for service members and their spouses.

The KC Chamber believes that making professional licenses reciprocal between states will allow Kansas to remove a needless barrier to workforce preparedness that businesses and workers, alike, support. Streamlining licensing reciprocity will also allow individuals to enter the workforce quicker and begin contributing to the economy of Kansas. The KC Chamber encourages this committee to pass HB 2068 with a favorable recommendation.

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