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Chairman Turner, Vice Chair Esau, Ranking Member Simmons, and members of the Legislative Modernization Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of House Bill 2592.

I introduced this bill because artificial intelligence and emerging technologies are no longer something on the horizon. They are already here. They are already shaping our economy, our classrooms, our workplaces, and our government. And that influence is only going to grow.

Right now, states across the country are trying to figure out how to respond to this rapid change. Some are moving too fast without enough information. Others are waiting too long and falling behind. I believe Kansas can take a smarter approach.

HB 2592 creates a task force that brings the right people to the table. Legislators, state agencies, educators, and technology experts will work together to study how these tools are affecting our state and how we can use them responsibly.

This is not about rushing into regulation. It is about understanding the facts before we make long-term decisions. It is about identifying risks like privacy and security concerns, while also recognizing opportunities to improve services, reduce costs, and grow our economy.

A major focus of this bill is preparing our workforce and students for the future. The jobs our kids will have in ten or twenty years are going to look very different than the jobs many of us grew up with. If we want Kansas to remain competitive, we need to make sure our education and training systems are keeping pace.

The task force will also report back to the Legislature with clear recommendations. That ensures accountability and gives us real guidance instead of guesswork.

I also want to be clear that I am open to input on the makeup and direction of this task force. My goal is to make sure it reflects Kansas values and Kansas priorities.

At the end of the day, HB 2592 is about allowing us to shape our future regarding AI, instead of having it shaped for us.

I believe this is the right step for Kansas, and I respectfully ask for your support.