

Thank you to the House Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development Committee for considering HB 2096. I am the Commerce Bank Market President representing Manhattan, KS, and I urge your support for HB 2096.

Commerce Bank supports Kansas communities' development through our wide-ranging financial services and programs. We support legislation and programs that make it easier for communities to grow and thrive.

HB 2096, amending the transferability of the Kansas Housing Investor Tax Credit program, is one of these critical pieces of legislation. This program has been a key tool for developers building in rural counties with significant housing needs.

HB 2096 makes the credits fully transferable with no loss of carryforward, expanding the market of interested buyers and investors. This in turn creates more capital for rural housing projects, which often struggle to compete for investment with more populated areas.

Commerce Bank wants to continue supporting rural Kansas communities and the people who serve them. HB 2096 helps us help developers and residents by maximizing investment opportunities in high-quality, much-needed housing in the areas that need it most.

I urge the legislature to pass HB 2096 and appreciate your support for sustainable economic development.

Shawn Drew

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