



Members of the House Committee on Taxation
Kansas State Capitol
Room 346-S
Topeka, Kansas

RE: House Bill 2208

February 10, 2025

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Greater Salina Community Foundation, I write in strong support of HB 2208, “concerning taxation; relating to income and privilege tax credits; enacting the endow Kansas tax credit act; establishing a tax credit for endowment gifts to certain endowment funds held by qualified community foundations.”

The Greater Salina Community Foundation’s mission is to improve lives and enrich communities. We manage over \$300M in assets and serve rural communities across 14 counties: Cloud, Ellis, Jewell, Lincoln, McPherson, Mitchell, Ottawa, Republic, Rooks, Russell, Saline, Smith, Trego and Washington. We have seen firsthand how endowed dollars sustain and enhance the quality of life in rural Kansas.

In our last fiscal year ending on June 30, 2024, the Foundation and its 10 regional affiliates granted \$21.9M to support a wide range of charitable causes that impact the daily lives of our citizens including childcare, housing, education, healthcare, and arts and culture. These investments not only enrich our communities but attract visitors and tax revenue. Because these funds are endowed, they continue to grow over time. With an average annual return of 8%, that \$21.9M in annual grants could grow to \$32.2M in just five years, ensuring long-term community impact.

At a time of federal budget cuts, endowed giving is more critical than ever to ensure Kansas communities have the resources they need—now and in the future. Unrestricted and field of interest funds provide flexibility, allowing local communities to respond to their own unique challenges. By supporting HB 2208, you are helping Kansas communities become more sustainable and less dependent on government funding.

We strongly encourage the Committee to advance this bill. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jessica L. Martin'.

Jessica L. Martin
President & Executive Director

