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**Written PROPONENT testimony in favor of SB 179. AN ACT concerning income taxation; relating to credits; establishing a child tax credit.**

TO: Chair Tyson and members of the Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation

FROM: Chuck Weber, Executive Director of the Kansas Catholic Conference

DATE: March 3, 2025

Madam Chair Tyson and committee members,

My name is Chuck Weber, and I serve as Executive Director of the Kansas Catholic Conference, the public policy voice of the Catholic Bishops of Kansas. **Thank you for the opportunity to provide our support for SB 179.**

Children are always gifts—even in tough circumstances. We need more children, more people, in Kansas!

Child tax credit plans like that found in SB 179 can be an important tool for women and men in a marriage seeking to give birth to children and rearing them in Kansas. A child tax credit aids families in paying for necessities like safe and stable housing and nutritious food. A generous child tax credit may also help with the ideal circumstance of children being raised by a full-time parent in the home, although this is not always possible.

We commend all lawmakers seeking legislation like SB 179 that can help ease some of the financial burdens of parenthood. As we build up the family with moms and dads and children, we build up Kansas.

No legislation is perfect. One recommendation would be to include child tax credit eligibility dating back to the date of conception, which is a medical designation made by a physician. This would provide some additional help with the pre-birth expenses associated with pregnancy.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this testimony on SB 179.

Chuck Weber  
Executive Director, Kansas Catholic Conference