



**Testimony to Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee
Written Only - Opposing SB 283
March 5, 2025**

The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and Civic Council of Greater Kansas City

The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce (KC Chamber) and Civic Council of Greater Kansas City (Civic Council) representing nearly 2,000 businesses (40% of which are in Kansas) strongly endorses the usage of the economic development tools, Promoting Employment Across Kansas (PEAK) and the High Performance Incentive Program (HPIP) in the state of Kansas, and asks that these economic incentives be continued.

The HPIP provides tax incentives to qualifying employers who pay above average wages, along with having a robust commitment to teach skills development to their workers. HPIP provides companies in the State of Kansas meaningful incentives to not only pay employees above average wages which increases the purchasing power of employees and consumers, but also encourages employers to offer continuing education and training to employees to “skill up” their workers and ultimately make them more productive employees. The PEAK program is designed to help recruit and retain jobs in Kansas by allowing companies to keep up to 95% of the payroll withholding taxes generated by new employees.

The KC Chamber/Civic Council believe Kansas can signal to current and prospective businesses and employers that the state is open for business, prepared to remain competitive with other states, and sincere in its commitment to investing in a high-quality workforce by continuing the use of economic incentives like PEAK and HPIP. Ending programs like these will jeopardize the current success Kansas has among other states. We believe these tools make Kansas globally competitive in a 21st Century economy. We oppose SB 283 and urge the committee to keep these economic development tools in the state.

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