

Re: Testimony in opposition to SB 283
Written testimony only
Blake Benson



March 4, 2025

The Honorable Caryn Tyson, Chair
Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation
Room 123-E
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka KS 66612

Dear Chair Tyson and members of the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee:

On behalf of the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce and our 500+ member businesses, representing over 10,000 employees throughout Southeast Kansas, please allow me to voice our concern and opposition to SB 283, which would we understand would sunset the High Performance Incentive Program (HPIP) and Promoting Employment Across Kansas (PEAK) Program. Both of these programs are key to keeping Kansas competitive for economic development projects.

These programs have been utilized by a number of Pittsburg businesses to help them grow and create jobs. Most recently, Avail Enclosures chose their Pittsburg facility for a major expansion that created over 40 good-paying jobs in our community. As Avail has locations in other states, the incentives provided by the HPIP and PEAK programs were cited as major reasons why the company's ownership chose the Pittsburg facility for their expansion.

This is just one of the many examples of how HPIP and PEAK have positively impacted our community and economy. I encourage you to keep them in place to keep Kansas, and communities like ours, competitive for continued growth.

Thank you in advance for the opportunity to offer testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blake Benson".

Blake Benson
President, Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce