



March 3, 2025

RE: Bill Number SB283

Conferee's Position – Opposition

Written Testimony

Conferee's Names - Ann Harts and Alicia Janesko Hutchings

Dear Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to Senate Bill 283, which would sunset critical incentive programs that have been instrumental in fostering business development and economic growth in Kansas. The passage of this bill would significantly undermine the state's ability to compete for new businesses, job creation, and investment opportunities, effectively placing the state at a severe disadvantage against states such as Georgia, North Carolina, Missouri, Indiana, and Texas who continue to have top business attraction and retention assets.

Kansas already faces unique challenges when it comes to attracting and retaining businesses. The state contends with an insufficient workforce, an uncompetitive tax structure, supply chain limitations, and a lower population density compared to other markets. These factors make it imperative that Kansas maintains and strengthens its economic development tools rather than eliminate them.

Economic incentive programs have played a pivotal role in bridging these gaps, helping businesses offset costs associated with relocation, expansion, and workforce development. Removing these incentives through SB283 would send a clear message that Kansas is no longer open for business, forcing companies to look elsewhere for more attractive opportunities in states that continue to invest in growth-oriented policies.

Other states aggressively utilize incentive programs to attract businesses, and if SB283 is enacted, Kansas will be left behind. The consequences will be severe: lost job opportunities, reduced economic output, and stagnation in targeted industries such as aviation, manufacturing, office, and bioscience. The economic gains you have worked so hard to achieve over the years will be jeopardized, ultimately diminishing Kansas' long-term growth potential.

We urge you to vote against SB 283 and to instead support policies that reinforce Kansas' ability to compete on a national scale. Your state cannot afford to take a step backward at a time when economic development is more crucial than ever.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to further discuss the importance of these incentive programs and their role in sustaining a vibrant Kansas economy.

Sincerely,

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