



**Testimony to Kansas Senate Committee on Commerce**

**Support of SB 52**

**February 4, 2025**

**The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce**

The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce (KC Chamber), representing approximately 2,000 members (40% of which are in Kansas) supports SB 52 which enacts the Kansas film and digital media production act. The KC Chamber supports policies that promote a pro-business environment and investments in economic development in the Kansas City region and our state.

The KC Chamber, representing nearly 2,000 businesses and 300,000 employees, and its Board of Directors, has identified workforce development as a critical and immediate need in our region. SB 52 is the same bill the 2024 House passed 102-22 and the Senate passed 32-5. Unfortunately, the Governor vetoed the bill.

We believe SB 52 will make Kansas more competitive for film and media productions, which will help with much needed workforce development and job creation while also bringing in revenue into our state. Kansas is one of only 13 states without a film tax incentive and with the passage of SB 52 we will be able to compete and land film and tv projects from around the country.

Right now, three of our neighboring states have similar legislation to SB 52 – Missouri, Oklahoma, and Colorado. Oklahoma has seen over \$140 million in film expenditures, 6,348 new hires, and \$40.7 million in wages in FY22 because of its film incentive program. Similar legislation has been introduced in Nebraska. Missouri passed its legislation two years ago and is already seeing TV movies being filmed there. Passing SB 52 will give us a head start over our neighboring states and allow us to compete with our neighbors. SB 52 will open Kansas for opportunities that are already sitting on the table and will allow us to highlight the great talents that come from our state.

The KC Chamber believes that this is a targeted but critical part of the overall workforce solution facing the state and region and is an issue that is expected only to grow in importance. The KC Chamber supports SB 52 and looks forward to working with the various stakeholders on this important issue.

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