



February 5, 2025

Senate Committee on Utilities
Testimony in Opposition to SB 81
By Debra Teufel, KEDA 2nd Vice President & President &
CEO at Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce

Dear Senator Faag and Committee Members:

The Kansas Economic Development Alliance (KEDA) represents over 76 Kansas communities and counties with over 100 economic development professionals who work to bring new companies, jobs and economic growth to the State of Kansas. I am here today to express our concerns and opposition to SB 81 for the following reasons:

- SB 81 seeks to undue the work done last year in HB 2527. Kansas needs investment and it needs to attract large loads to our state. Last year, HB 2527 included a new 10-year EDR to match Missouri for high use loads.
- KEDA supports the direction of SB 51 incenting data centers, which aligns our state's tax environment to match what other states are doing to attract data centers. Passage of SB 81 would negate the efforts outlined in SB 51 by taking us backwards on power costs.
- We are making headway with significantly sized data centers now actively looking and considering Kansas. It is our understanding that all of the prospects would require in excess of 40 MWs.
- Kansas communities will benefit from the economic impact of data centers. They bring construction jobs and tax revenue without the demand for workers. Our member communities would welcome projects that create construction jobs as well as high-paying data center jobs.
- The members of KEDA support Kansas diversifying its business portfolio with data centers. While we also want projects that creates hundreds of jobs we also need the investment and taxes that data center projects generate.

On behalf of the KEDA, thank you for the opportunity to present our concerns with SB 81 and the negative impact it could have on Kansas economic development. I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.