

## HOUSE BILL No. 2580

By Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

Requested by Representative K. Williams

1-28

1 AN ACT concerning economic development; relating to international  
2 trade; establishing the Kansas international trade commission to  
3 advance, promote and encourage business and other mutually beneficial  
4 activities between Kansas and other countries, particularly Ireland,  
5 Japan and Taiwan; establishing the Kansas international trade  
6 commission fund.

7  
8 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

9 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the Kansas international  
10 trade commission. The commission shall consist of 16 members as  
11 follows:

12 (1) The chairperson of the senate standing committee on commerce  
13 and the chairperson of the house of representatives standing committee on  
14 commerce, labor and economic development, as appointed by the  
15 president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives,  
16 respectively;

17 (2) (A) (i) three members of the senate, two of whom shall be  
18 appointed by the president of the senate and one of whom shall be  
19 appointed by the minority leader of the senate; and

20 (ii) three members of the house of representatives, two of whom shall  
21 be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and one of  
22 whom shall be appointed by the minority leader of the house of  
23 representatives.

24 (B) Such appointees shall have interest in the well-being of trade  
25 relations between Kansas and other countries, particularly Ireland, Japan  
26 or Taiwan, and current or past involvement in businesses engaged in  
27 international trade, preferably with such countries or organizations that  
28 promote international trade or Kansas-Irish, Kansas-Japanese or Kansas-  
29 Taiwanese affairs;

30 (3) seven members, three of whom shall be appointed by the  
31 governor, two by the speaker of the house of representatives and two by  
32 the president of the senate. The members appointed by the governor,  
33 speaker of the house of representatives and president of the senate shall  
34 each be a representative of either:

35 (A) A Kansas postsecondary public education institution;

1 (B) the Kansas-Irish, Kansas-Japanese or Kansas-Taiwanese  
2 community in Kansas who is interested in furthering trade between Kansas  
3 and Ireland, Japan or Taiwan;

4 (C) a Kansas industry engaged in or seeking to engage in trade with  
5 Ireland, Japan or Taiwan; or

6 (D) a Kansas business association, trade organization, economic  
7 development organization or chamber of commerce engaged in or  
8 interested in engaging in the furtherance of trade with Ireland, Japan and  
9 Taiwan

10 (4) the secretary of commerce or the secretary's designee who has  
11 responsibilities with respect to international trade.

12 (b) No public postsecondary educational institution, business  
13 association, trade organization or chamber of commerce shall have more  
14 than one representative serving as a member of the commission.

15 (c) (1) Legislative members shall serve for a term corresponding to  
16 the two-year biennial legislative session in which they are appointed to the  
17 council and remain members of the legislature to retain membership on the  
18 council. Vacancies of legislative members shall be filled for the unexpired  
19 portion of the term in the same manner as the original appointment. The  
20 appointing authority for a legislative member may remove a member and  
21 substitute such member with another appointee at any time. Legislative  
22 members may be reappointed.

23 (2) All nonlegislative members shall serve a term of three years.  
24 Vacancies of nonlegislative members shall be filled for the unexpired  
25 portion of the term in the same manner as the original appointment. The  
26 appointing authority for the nonlegislative member may remove a member  
27 and substitute such member with another appointee at any time.  
28 Nonlegislative members may be reappointed.

29 (d) A member of the commission attending meetings of such  
30 commission or attending a subcommittee meeting thereof authorized by  
31 such commission shall be paid compensation, subsistence allowances,  
32 mileage and other expenses as provided in K.S.A. 75-3223, and  
33 amendments thereto, for each day or part thereof in which such member  
34 attended a meeting authorized by the commission, except that no state  
35 funds shall be used for mileage or other travel expenses for travel outside  
36 the state of Kansas for members who are not state employees. Members  
37 who are not state employees may be reimbursed for mileage or other travel  
38 expenses for travel outside the state of Kansas from donations, grants or  
39 other nonpublic funds available to the commission pursuant to section 2,  
40 and amendments thereto. A member shall be reimbursed for other  
41 necessary and reasonable expenses actually incurred in the performance of  
42 such member's official duties. Compensation, allowances and expenses  
43 incurred from the attendance at meetings of the commission and any

1 administrative expenses of the commission shall be paid from any account  
2 of the state general fund of the department of commerce as designated by  
3 the secretary of commerce. No reimbursement shall be made for remote  
4 attendance at meetings.

5 (e) The commission shall hold meetings at least once each quarter.  
6 Meetings shall be held in Topeka, Kansas, at the call of the chairperson.  
7 Meetings may be held remotely or members may participate remotely via  
8 video conference at the discretion of the chairperson. Upon the  
9 chairperson's request, the secretary of commerce shall provide appropriate  
10 meeting facilities for the commission. Meetings shall be open to the  
11 public.

12 (f) A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a  
13 quorum for the transaction of business.

14 (g) The chairperson of the house of representatives standing  
15 committee on commerce, labor and economic development shall serve as  
16 the chairperson of the council when first organized and for the ensuing two  
17 years. The chairperson of the senate standing committee on commerce  
18 shall serve as the chairperson of the council for the next succeeding two  
19 years, and thereafter, the office of chairperson shall continue to alternate  
20 between the chambers.

21 (h) The chairperson may appoint subcommittees and subcommittee  
22 chairpersons from among the commission members. Expenses of members  
23 for attendance at subcommittee meetings shall not be reimbursable unless  
24 such meetings are approved by the legislative coordinating council. Any  
25 such reimbursement shall be made as provided by subsection (d).

26 (i) The commission shall keep records of all proceedings. Such  
27 records shall be public and open to inspection.

28 (j) The staff of the office of revisor of statutes, the legislative research  
29 department and the division of legislative administrative services shall  
30 provide such assistance as may be requested by the chairperson.

31 Sec. 2. (a) The purposes of the Kansas international trade commission  
32 shall be to advance, promote and encourage business and other mutually  
33 beneficial activities between Kansas and other countries, particularly  
34 Ireland, Japan and Taiwan, including:

35 (1) Bilateral trade and investment between Kansas and other  
36 countries, particularly Ireland, Japan or Taiwan;

37 (2) mutual action on policy issues of mutual interest;

38 (3) business and academic exchanges;

39 (4) mutual economic support;

40 (5) mutual investment in respective infrastructure; and

41 (6) other opportunities for mutual benefit and economic growth as  
42 identified by the commission.

43 (b) The secretary of commerce or the secretary's designee who has

1 responsibilities with respect to international trade shall prepare and present  
2 to the commission at the commission's first meeting a report on Kansas  
3 international business and trade activity, expenditures and opportunities for  
4 expansion, in general and specifically with Ireland, Japan and Taiwan.  
5 Such report shall be updated by the secretary or secretary's designee  
6 quarterly and include any other nonconfidential international business or  
7 trade information as may be requested by the commission.

8 (c) The commission shall report findings, activities, results and  
9 recommendations to the governor and the legislature within one year of the  
10 commission's initial meeting and by February 1 of each succeeding year  
11 for the activities of the preceding calendar year. The report shall be in  
12 writing and may include recommendations or proposed legislation as  
13 deemed appropriate by the commission to effectuate the commission's  
14 purposes.

15 (d) (1) The commission shall be authorized to raise funds to carry out  
16 the purposes of the commission and accept gifts, grants and bequests from  
17 individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies and public  
18 and private organizations and institutions. All such funds, gifts, grants or  
19 bequests received shall be deposited in the Kansas international trade  
20 commission fund established in section 3, and amendments thereto, and all  
21 expenditures from such fund shall be for the purposes of the commission  
22 and authorized upon the majority vote of the commission.

23 (2) The commission shall prepare an annual written accounting and  
24 report of all gifts, grants, bequests or other funds received by the  
25 commission pursuant to paragraph (1). Such report shall be provided on or  
26 before February 1 of each year to the legislative coordinating council, the  
27 house committee on commerce, labor and economic development and the  
28 senate committee on commerce.

29 Sec. 3. (a) There is hereby established in the state treasury the Kansas  
30 international trade commission fund, which shall be administered by the  
31 chairperson of the Kansas international trade commission or the  
32 chairperson's designee. At the request of the chairperson or the vote of the  
33 commission, the secretary of commerce or the secretary's designee shall  
34 serve as the designee of the chairperson with respect to the administration  
35 of the fund. All moneys received from any private donation, gift, grant or  
36 bequest made to such trade commission for the purposes of this act shall  
37 be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of  
38 K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such  
39 remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state  
40 treasury to the credit of the Kansas international trade commission fund.  
41 All expenditures from such fund shall be for the purposes of the Kansas  
42 international trade commission, authorized upon a majority vote of the  
43 commission and made in accordance with appropriation acts upon

1 warrants of the director of accounts and reports issued pursuant to  
2 vouchers approved by the chairperson of the Kansas international trade  
3 commission or the chairperson's designee.

4 (b) On or before the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month, the director of accounts and  
5 reports shall transfer from the state general fund to the Kansas  
6 international trade commission fund interest earnings based on:

7 (1) The average daily balance of moneys in such fund for the  
8 preceding month; and

9 (2) the net earnings rate for the pooled money investment portfolio  
10 for the preceding month.

11 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
12 publication in the statute book.