Kit Starr, Partner
Starr Homes
Testimony
House Committee on Taxation

Brief Bio

- From Independence, Missouri
- Undergraduate from Graceland College with a triple major in Business Administration,
 Economics and Accounting
- M.B.A. from Creighton University
- I started Kit Starr Builders in 2001 which became Starr Homes in 2005 when I partnered with my brother who joined the business

Talking points

I'm Kit Starr, partner of a small construction company in Overland Park. I'm fortunate enough to own a business that has grown in the down economy. Since the economic down turn in 2008 we have tripled the number of homes that we build annually and should add an additional 20% increase in 2012.

We have done well in part because we have focused on delivering exactly what the customer wants, in a quality way, at a fair price. Most of our homes consume 40-50% less energy than a standard new home creating a net savings to the customer around \$100 per month.

I am in support of this plan to reduce the state income tax for the following reasons:

- 1. My business is driven by what people can afford to spend. If people have a little more money available, they tend to spend more. More available money means more will be spent.
- 2. Reduced income taxes will also lower the burden on our business allowing us continue to invest in our company.
- 3. Personally I feel a flatter fairer tax will benefit all individuals and small businesses. Reducing tax burdens across the board, even slightly, helps facilitate growth. When people have more money, they spend more money. When they spend more money, they stimulate growth in my business and most other small business.

I see the proposal as a win/win/win.

Individuals win with a lower tax burden.

Small business wins with more revenue and a lower tax burden, and

The state wins because the economic stimulus will create additional revenue that would not have otherwise been created.