



**House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Testimony in Support of House Bill 2442
Presented by Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs**

Monday, March 22, 2021

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2442 which provides liability protections for businesses and educational institutions participating in work-based learning programs.

HB 2442 is a much-needed workforce development bill designed to provide liability protections for businesses that accept a secondary student into an on-the-job learning program or internship. HB 2442 will help both employers and future employees to build a stronger, more educated and higher trained workforce.

HB 2442 will be a catalyst to the expansion of off campus work-based learning opportunities for students while providing students with on-the-job experience and networking opportunities that will develop our next generation of workers and highlight the many job opportunities and industries available in our state.

In closing, workforce needs continues to be a top concern for the business community. We believe House Bill 2442 would provide great value to schools, students, employers, and the state. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have at the appropriate time.