



Testimony in Support of House Bill 2704

**Kansas House Committee on
Local Government**

February 19, 2024

Andrew Wiens
On behalf of
Opportunity Solutions Project

Chairman Bergquist and Members of the Kansas House Committee on Local Government:

Good morning! My name is Andrew Wiens with Dugan Consulting Group, speaking with you today on behalf of Opportunity Solutions Project (OSP). OSP is a non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization dedicated to advancing policies that reduce barriers to work, protect state benefits for the truly needy, and ensure that the government is accountable to taxpayers and citizens.

I am pleased to speak in support of House Bill 2704 today. HB 2704 creates the no-impact home-based business act to limit the ability of municipalities to regulate such businesses. The bill defines what constitutes a home-based business and states that a municipality shall not prohibit a no-impact home-based business or otherwise require a person to obtain a license or permit or other type of prior approval from the municipality to operate a no-impact home-based business.

The reason this bill is before you today is that local governments have placed well-intended but still onerous restrictions on homeowners seeking to launch businesses inside their homes—even if they're working quietly inside, without bothering the neighbors. Some municipalities in Kansas impose restrictions on work hours or online sales or limit the work to family members or by square footage of work space.

We believe Kansans should be allowed to run a business in their homes without local government intrusion if the business does not have an impact on the neighborhood. If this legislation passes, cities can still regulate street parking, traffic, signage, noise, and other neighborhood issues.

OSP supports HB 2704 because it ensures local governments in Kansas update ordinances to allow flexibility and innovation and employment opportunities for home-based business owners. I urge your favorable consideration of HB 2704. Thank you.