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Written only Testimony in Support of SB 164  
By Robert Harrington, REDI Bourbon County

Dear Members of the Kansas Senate Committee on Taxation,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 164, which would provide a \$2,000 tax credit for qualified employees of licensed childcare facilities. As a concerned citizen and advocate for improved childcare access in rural areas of Kansas, including Bourbon County, I believe that this bill is a critical step towards addressing the growing need for childcare and supporting workforce development.

As you are undoubtedly aware, access to affordable and reliable childcare is a significant challenge for many families, particularly in rural areas where there are often few options available. In many cases, working parents have no choice but to stay home or rely on inadequate and unreliable care for their children, which can make it difficult to maintain employment and advance in their careers.

Senate Bill 164 would provide a much-needed incentive for the expansion and development of licensed childcare facilities in these underserved areas. By providing a tax credit for qualified employees of these facilities, we can help to attract and retain qualified childcare workers, who are essential to providing high-quality care for our children.

Furthermore, increasing access to childcare is not only a quality-of-life necessity for working parents, but it is also a necessity for the companies that employ them. Providing childcare in these higher impoverished areas will help support workforce development, which, in turn, provides opportunities for businesses to grow and prosper in rural areas throughout Kansas. This bill has the potential to stimulate economic growth, job creation, and provide a better future for working families and communities across Kansas.

In conclusion, I urge you to support Senate Bill 164 and work towards its swift passage into law. The need for increased childcare access in rural areas of Kansas is urgent, and this bill provides a critical tool for addressing this important issue. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Harrington  
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