



Proponent Testimony in Support of SB 164
By Greg Kindle, President
Wyandotte County Economic Development Council

Chair Tyson and Honorable Committee members of the Committee on Assessment and Taxation,

I am Greg Kindle, President of the Wyandotte County Economic Development Council. I am appearing today to express support on behalf of the Kansas Economic Development Alliance (KEDA) for Senate Bill 164. This bill proposes to provide a \$2,000 tax credit for qualified employees of licensed childcare facilities. This bill is a critical step towards addressing the growing need for childcare and supporting workforce development.

Senate Bill 164 would provide a much-needed incentive for the expansion and development of licensed childcare facilities in all four corners of the state. By providing a tax credit for qualified employees of these facilities, you will be able to attract new and retain qualified childcare workers, who are essential to providing high-quality care for our children.

Access to childcare is a quality-of-life necessity for working parents but is also a necessity for the companies employing them. Increasing childcare capacity will support workforce development and provide opportunities for businesses to grow and prosper in Kansas. SB 164 has the potential to stimulate economic growth in the childcare industry which in turn will help Kansas with job creation in other areas and ultimately provide a better future for working families, businesses 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 across Kansas is urgent, and this bill is one tool that can be used to address this important issue.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.