

HB 2403

Legislative Testimony: **PRO** HB 2403

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Thank you for the opportunity to address economic development needs in Kansas. HB 2403 is of interest to economic development as it allows for the enterprise zone to be reinstated in communities that qualify and wish to participate. Enterprise Zone was an incentive that was successfully utilized in the past to grow the Kansas economy. In Russell County, we offer opportunities at the local level, but would be able to leverage a larger opportunity by matching local and state programs that aide in deal closing negotiations, such as the Enterprise Zone opportunity.

Just in Russell County alone, Enterprise Zone would have aided in enhancing the deal flow of 5 projects in 2015 and 4 projects in 2016. At this time in 2017, 2 pending projects would potentially qualify. The beauty of the enterprise zone, is that it is an incentive for businesses who are investing in Kansas and have shared risk.

It's a pertinent time for Kansas to sustain and grow, HB2403 would be an asset to that process. Long term benefits and side effects to business expansion and new business development is community growth, employment growth, and the opportunity for a state balanced budget. All of Kansas grows when new business development or business expansions take place.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2403 and the opportunity to reinstate the Enterprise Zone opportunity to communities that are interested to do so.