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TESTIMONY BEFORE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
REGARDING HOUSE BILL 2036
RELATED TO PROVIDING INCOME TAX CREDITS FOR AEROSPACE AND AVIATION
PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 1, 2017

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

My name is Merrill Eisenhower Atwater, and I am the Aviation Director at the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). I appreciate the opportunity to come before you today to testify on behalf of House Bill 2036. KDOT is neutral on the passage of this bill.

Kansas Aerospace manufacturing accounts for \$11.5 billion in economic impact and 32,000 jobs. Kansas is expected to rank in the top ten of states for the most gains in terms of job creation and additional revenue from the integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). Kansas UAS economic impact through 2025 is projected to be around \$3 billion with over 3,700 jobs. Over 73 percent of the world's general aviation fleets have been manufactured in Kansas since the dawn of flight. Total output impact from general aviation in Kansas is valued at \$8.3 billion, making it the highest per capita output of any state in the country.

Thank you for your time today. I will now stand for questions.