



UNION STATE BANK

To: Kansas House Committee on Taxation

From: Eric Kurtz, President and CEO of Union State Bank, Arkansas City, Kansas

Re: House Bill No. 2341

Union State Bank has had significant interests in Cowley County, Kansas by and through our locations in Winfield, Arkansas City and Udall, Kansas for many years. Through these efforts, we have been considerably involved in economic development efforts by enhancing the quality of business and opportunities within our core trade area. After learning about the benefits and opportunities that ROZ designation provides we feel that this program could significantly encourage relocation with numerous businesses within our trade territory. We feel that Cowley's participation and approval as an ROZ county will help to further our abilities to attract qualified skilled workers as well as provide assistance to those wishing to return or move to our state. Due to the proximity to Oklahoma, inclusion in this program could be particularly helpful to Cowley County to help provide further incentives to move individuals to our wonderful state.

We thank the committee for their time and consideration in this regard to help move Cowley Co. to the same designation as most other similarly situated counties in the state.

Respectfully,

Eric Kurtz, President and CEO
Union State Bank