

The Coalition asks that before ANY state entity enters into an agreement to “deputize” local law enforcement as immigration officers, they hold extensive public and private meetings with communities. Asking state law enforcement to act as (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) ICE officers must be done after careful consideration of the role they will have. If troopers are asked to participate in **civil** immigration matters without a nexus to a criminal act the potential costs are significant. State policy makers and law enforcement need to consider the effects of trooper involvement in immigration matters on community relations; victimization and exploitation of immigrants; training to avoid police misconduct and civil liability for violations of civil liberties; and budgets.

Our concern is that any negotiation with the federal government be done with consideration of the costs of the program on Kansas troopers and Kansas taxpayers. Today, the Kansas Highway Patrol struggles with recruiting and retaining troopers. It is likely that adding another role will discourage some potential employees or encourage existing troopers to reconsider their career. As taxpayers, we appreciate the fine work of the Kansas Highway Patrol. We also understand their funding challenges. However, we do not want to pay for the costs of immigration enforcement at the state and local level when we have and will pay for it at the federal level. This appears to be another example of the federal government shifting costs to the states.

The Kansas Chamber, along with the other 25 members of the Kansas Business Coalition for Immigration Reform, appreciate the opportunity to provide these remarks in opposition to SB 157.

City of Wichita

**Corporate Immigration Compliance
Institute**

**Greater Kansas City Chamber of
Commerce**

Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce

Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association

Kansas Building Industry Association

Kansas Chamber of Commerce

Kansas Contractors Association

Kansas Cooperative Council

Kansas Corn Growers Association

Kansas Dairy Association

Kansas Economic Progress Council

Kansas Farm Bureau

Kansas Grain and Feed

Kansas Livestock Association

Kansas Manufactured Housing Association

Kansas Pork Association

**Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality
Association**

**Kansas Society for Human Resource
Management**

Kansans for Sensible Immigration Policy

Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce

Mid-America Green Industry Council

Overland Park Chamber of Commerce

Travel Industry Association of Kansas

Unified Government of Wyandotte County

Wichita Independent Business Association