



February 12, 2020

Mr. Chairman and Members the Committee,

On behalf of the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and our nearly 1,800 members, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of S.B. 339, AN ACT concerning electric utilities; relating to electric rates; state corporation commission; approval of certain contract rates for electricity; cost recovery from rate classes.

This legislation would grant authority to the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) to approve special contract rates by an electric public utility for an industrial or commercial customer, without the filing of a general rate case.

The Chamber stands in strong support of S.B. 339 because we believe it will make Kansas more competitive and successful in its efforts to attract major investment and job creation in the state of Kansas. The south-central region of our state is home to some of the nation's most highly trained and highly skilled workers. Manufacturing is a major economic contributor to the State General Fund and is the engine for economic prosperity throughout the region and the state. We recognize opportunity exists to grow this sector in the region and across the state and the policy contained in SB 339 would be another valuable tool in our toolbox to attract job creators to the state of Kansas.

With this in mind, we urge the Committee to report S.B. 339 favorable for passage.

Very truly yours,

Jason P. Watkins
Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce