

House Committee on Taxation
Representative Adams Smith, Chair

Written Testimony Daina K Williams

Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee:

I am Daina Williams, a dedicated small business owner, and a proud father of a Boys & Girls Clubs Topeka (BGCT) Club member. I strongly urge your support for the request for a sales tax exemption for the construction project of a new BGCT workforce readiness, career, and leadership development center. As someone who values education, community engagement, and youth empowerment, I believe that this investment is crucial for the future success of our youth and our community as a whole.

I understand firsthand the impact that BGCT has had on his child's development. The Club has provided a safe, nurturing environment where his child has not only received academic support but has also gained valuable life skills, leadership qualities, and a sense of belonging. BGCT's programs are designed to prepare young people for the challenges and opportunities they will encounter as they transition into adulthood, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to succeed in their chosen paths.

As a small business owner, I recognize the importance of investing in our youth's education and career readiness. A workforce readiness, career, and leadership development center will not only benefit individual Club members but will also contribute to a more skilled, innovative, and competitive workforce in our community. By supporting this construction project with a sales tax exemption, we are investing in the future prosperity of our city and ensuring that our youth have access to the resources they need to reach their full potential.

I urge you to consider the long-term benefits of granting a sales tax exemption for this project. The positive impact on our youth, families, businesses, and community as a whole will be immeasurable. Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your commitment to supporting youth development and opportunity.