



**Testimony to Kansas House Committee on Taxation
Support of HB 2182
February 13, 2023
The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce**

The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce (KC Chamber), representing approximately 2,000 members (40% of which are in Kansas) supports HB 2182 which enacts the Kansas film and digital media production act. The KC Chamber supports policies that promote a pro-business environment and investments in economic development in Kansas City and our state.

The KC Chamber, representing nearly 2,000 businesses and 300,000 employees, and its Board of Directors, has identified workforce development as a critical and immediate need in our region. We believe HB 2182 will make Kansas more competitive for film and media productions which will help with much needed workforce development and jobs while also bringing in revenue into our state. Kansas is one of only 13 states without a film tax incentive and with passage of HB 2182 we will be able to compete and land film and tv projects from around the country.

Right now, only two of our neighboring states have similar legislation to HB 2182, Oklahoma and Colorado. Oklahoma has seen over \$140 million in film expenditures, 6,348 new hires, and \$40.7 million in wages in FY22 because of their film incentive program. Similar legislation has been introduced in Nebraska and Missouri. Passing HB 2182 will give us a head start over our neighboring states and allow us to compete with our neighbors of Oklahoma and Colorado. At our annual Chamber dinner this fall, we had Kansas City, KS native Morgan Cooper as our headline speaker. He is now the producer and head writer of the hit TV show "Bel-Aire". In his keynote, he discussed his new project which is a tv show that is based in the KC region. He would love to be able to film in his hometown but because Kansas does not offer incentives like many other state's it is hard to justify filming in the area. HB 2182 will open up Kansas for opportunities that are already sitting on the table and will allow us to highlight the great talents that come from our state.

The KC Chamber believes that this is just a part of the overall workforce solution facing the state and region and is an issue that is expected to only grow in importance. The KC Chamber supports HB 2182 and looks forward to working with the various stakeholders on this important issue.

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