



To: Committee on Commerce and Economic Development

FROM: The City of Olathe

DATE: February 17, 2017

SUBJECT: Support of HB 2284

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The City of Olathe, along with the Chamber of Commerce, actively seeks and promotes job growth and economic investment in Kansas and responsibly uses available tools to compete for developments.

Though the City has never used STAR Bond funding on a project, we strongly believe it is an invaluable tool to secure the most significant projects for our state. These types of projects not only create jobs in Kansas, they attract visitors to our area and state who not only visit the STAR bond project area, but also stay in local hotels, dine at local restaurants and purchase a myriad of other items at local retailers.

The City believes the current STAR Bond formula is both fair and responsible. The City has explored STAR Bond use before, but ultimately did not use the tool. The City believes STAR Bond requirements currently in place ensure they will only be used for the significant type projects envisioned when the program was created.

As such, the City of Olathe fully supports HB 2284 to preserve this valuable tool.