



**House Committee on Commerce Labor and Economic Development
In Opposition to House Bill 2185
Presented by Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs**

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to testify in opposition to House Bill 2185.

In 2013, the Kansas Chamber along with several other organizations supported House Bill 2069 which prohibited local units of government from burdening businesses with mandates not required by federal law such as paid leave and paid time off. The bill also prohibited local units of government from passing ordinances to increase the minimum wage to a level higher than the state or federal minimum.

At the time, there was a growing trend of cities placing mandates such as these on businesses and Kansas was one of the first states to adopt a prohibition on local government in these areas. Since then as you see on the map attached to our testimony, 22 states preempt local minimum wage, 15 preempt local paid leave ordinances, and 14 preempt both.

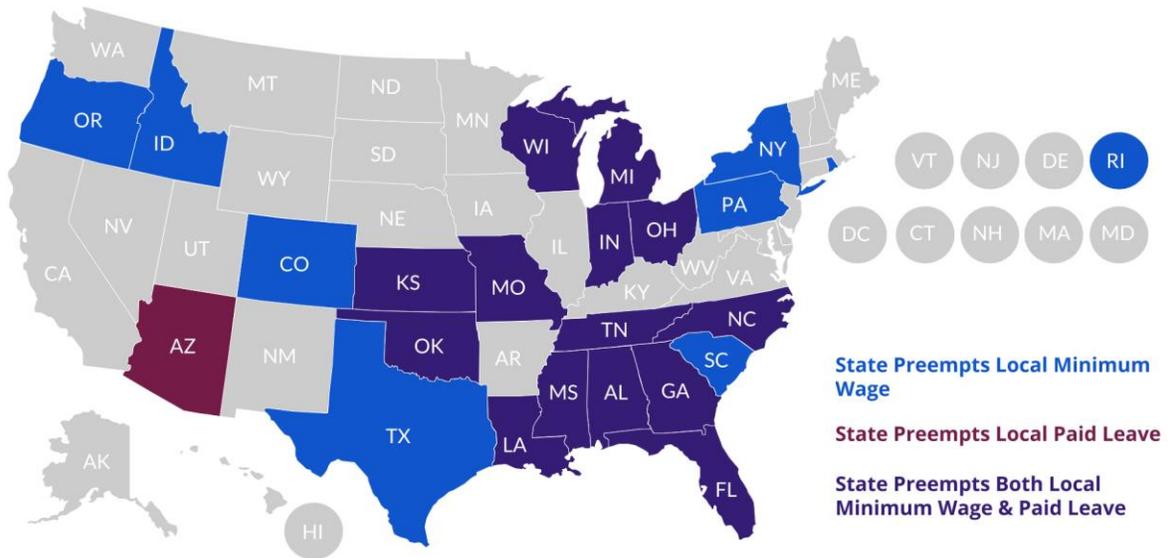
HB 2069 was passed to prevent local units of government from placing unfair and burdensome mandates on businesses that would not be applied to businesses located in other parts of the state, or even the same county. Unfortunately HB 2185 looks to repeal the content of HB 2069 which was a great victory for the business community in the state.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony against HB 2185 and I am happy to answer questions at the appropriate time.



The Kansas Chamber, with headquarters in Topeka, is the leading statewide pro-business advocacy group moving Kansas towards becoming the best state in America to do business. The Chamber represents small, medium and large employers all across Kansas.

State Preemption: Of local minimum wage & paid leave ordinances



22 states preempt local minimum wage, 15 states preempt local paid leave ordinances, & 14 states preempt both.
Note: NY preemption is via case law not legislation.