

Emails in Support of HB2233:

Mr. Deeter,

I urge support of House Bill No. 2233 to insure that citizens have the opportunity to vote on whether to dispose of publicly owned buildings of historic and architectural significance to the community. In Wichita, we have lost the majority of our historic structures over time, and the few that remain are irreplaceable.

Our sense of community pride is based on understanding our history, and without these physical reminders, memory fades. Both Century II and the former downtown public library are places of enormous community memory; everyone who lived here before the library was vacated knows the tremendous public service it performed over its lifetime, and everyone who has attended a concert or play or trade show or other event in Century II has memories of those times of celebration and cultural appreciation.

These buildings belong to Wichitans. Our tax dollars built and maintained them, and we deserve to have a say in their future. They hold our communal memory within their walls. We count on your support of this legislation to secure our right to vote to save our built heritage.

Susan Miner
Wichita, Kansas

Hi! Century II

I am Arvin C. Marlowe! I am from Arkansas, not Ar-kansas. (This is a Kansas thing). I have a desire to keep the Century || here in Wichita, Kansas. This building could be a Historical Site for Wichita, Kansas. The Elderly group wants to be able to see a Memorial Landmark. I vote to keep the Century II Alive. May God Bless You!

Dear Representative Deeter,

House Bill No. 2233 which would "require a mandatory majority VOTE of Wichita qualified electors before municipally-owned buildings exceeding 80,000 square feet and on the National Register of Historic Places can be demolished or destroyed" should and must be passed!

Historic Buildings are not only worth preserving for their intrinsic beauty and value as historic architecture (as both the old library and Century II are,) tearing them down to put something in their place would only add to Wichita's CO2 production and cause further worsening of Climate Change.

Please vote for this bill! Give the people a voice in this important matter.

Thanks,

Mary Kathryn Vernon

At least 17,265 people in Wichita signed petitions to save our historical Century II. It was designed by a student of Frank Lloyd Wright and the construction was supervised by another of FLW's students and partner of the designer.

The dome's blue roof refers to the broad Kansas sky, the vertical panels at the edge of the cantilevered roof refer to the color of Kansas wheat. The glass walls connect it to the surrounding openspace on three sides of the building including the Arkansas River. The facilities in the basement to make original scenery has allowed Wichita to be the first producer of Broadway shows after their Broadway run. It has also given many people a direct line to New York to continue their chosen profession.

The former library next to Century II was also designed by a local architectural firm and won an Architects Association award because of its brutalist style.

These two buildings are across the street from the old city building/jail designed by Proudfoot and Bird and the Carnegie Library. Both of which have been successfully repurposed. The library can be repurposed and Century II can be updated and used for its original purpose,,,,,a performing arts center, exhibition hall and community center. It is an insult to the citizens that voted to build Century II in the 1950's that the city has not properly kept Century II in good repair and updated. This money was diverted for other purposes, but we are expected to give up the chief architectural symbol of Wichita for these quiet diversions?

As many smaller communities have learned, hometown citizens and out-of-towners are drawn to refurbished theaters and other historical buildings and museums, which give the community pride and monetary benefit.

Support House Bill No. 2233, Janice Bailey, Wichita, KS

Dear Mr. Deeter,

I am writing in regard to HB 2233, the Municipal Historic Buildings Act. I support this bill because it would allow the citizens to vote on whether or not to demolish historic buildings in their communities. For example, the citizens of Wichita should have the right to vote on whether or not a building such as Century II or the former Public Library should remain or be demolished.

Having grown up in Wichita, I appreciate the iconic nature of these two buildings which have been defining structures in the city skyline for several generations. I have memories of attending many concerts and events over the course of my life at Century II, while living in the city and even after moving away. My children attended events with me and even performed in theatrical productions there. The Public Library served as an educational venue during my high school days where I went to do research for various classes. It was an invaluable resource to the entire community.

Both of these beautiful buildings represent life in Wichita and both continue to have life to offer Wichita. Century II is particularly iconic due to its unusual architectural style. Rather than being a drain

on the community it sets the community apart! It would be a shame to lose these beautiful buildings, as it has been said, "you never know what you've got til it's gone."

The decision about a cities skyline should belong to the people of that city. I urge your support of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Patrice Williamson

From: GWENDOLYN SANDEFUR <gsandefur@cox.net>

Sent: Saturday, February 20, 2021 10:38 AM

To: fgdeeter@gmail.com

Subject: House Bill 2233

Regarding House Bill 2233 requiring a Mandatory vote of the citizens before damaging or demolishing the historical Century II building and the former Wichita Public library building.

These are very important buildings for our community. I am a 92 year old lifetime resident of this city and these buildings have been a great asset, bringing us affordable entertainment and enrichment in the form of the Home Show, Garden Show, Boat Show, Car Show, Quilt Show, Music Theatre and Symphony performances. My family and many others especially enjoyed the annual Family Christmas Concert with our grandchildren. I can not even imagine that anyone could even think of tearing down these significant buildings without taking a vote of the citizens!

I support House Bill 2233 requiring a Mandatory majority vote of the citizens before damaging or demolishing these historical buildings!

Gwendolyn Sandefur

1721 Gold, Wichita, Ks. 67213

316-262-1287

We are writing today in support of House Bill No. 2233 requiring approval by majority vote of qualified city electors before taking certain actions involving certain public buildings.

Two of the buildings in Wichita which would be affected by this bill are Century II and the former public library. Both of which are now on the National Registry of Historic Buildings.

Century II Convention and Performing Arts Center has been the foremost iconic and dominant representation of Wichita since 1969. It was designed by two architects who were apprentices of Frank Lloyd Wright. It has been beloved by citizens since 1969 who have attended Music Theater Performances, Wichita Symphony Concerts, Car Shows bringing entries from all across the U.S., Book & Art Fair, National Square Dancing Competitions, Celebrity performances, the Wichita Home Show, the Wichita Garden Show, large community conventions, and many others, as well as serving as the “anchor” for our huge Wichita River Festival. Flying into Wichita, the first thing we attempt to recognize is always the big beautiful round building, Century II, that represents our city. (During this COVID crisis, the city is currently using the basement as an area to sanitize all city emergency vehicles.)

The former **public library** is a pillar in a group of four architecturally and historically significant buildings in downtown Wichita. It's floor to ceiling windows provide a panoramic view of downtown Wichita. It is a Brutalist design that was awarded a national design award in 1968 from the American Institute of Architects. This former city library shut down in May of 2018 when the city replaced it with an Advanced Learning Library. It has remained vacant ever since and was considered for demolition (as also was Century II) under a redevelopment plan prior to the pandemic. (It has recently been selected as the perfect site for COVID vaccinations.)

When the citizens heard of this demolition plan they immediately organized a committee and began a city-wide petition drive to save both buildings. 17,265 signatures were then gathered by many citizens and presented to the City Mayor. The city then filed a lawsuit against the committee regarding the wording on our petition (which had been approved by an attorney). Lots of work for nothing by many citizens.

These buildings are so beloved and important to our citizens. We request your decision to approve this Bill so that the Wichita citizens can VOTE if they are threatened with these demolition threats again. We paid for these buildings and feel we have a right to defend them.

Thank you for your consideration,

Michael and Diana Sterling

1346 N. Shefford St.

Wichita, KS 67212

Sirs;

Century II & the Library are ICONS of Wichita, its symbol & essence. The pattern of corruption in Wichita seems to have no conscience as with the shallow pretexts. Century II is the functional centerpiece of Wichita that gives our city its unique identity. To tear it down will tear the heart & soul from Wichita.

The corrupt intent is so obvious in the extremes gone to keep the citizens of Wichita from Voting on this. The people of Wichita want Century II kept and they are angry about the way the city has withheld maintenance/repairs to try to sabotage our Icon for their own profit agendas.

Those that allow this will be remembered at the polls & forever. Please Protect our historical buildings as Century II.

Please do the Right Thing, Thank You for your consideration.

Bill & Gloria Ryan 130 N. Glendale Wichita, Ks. 67208

Dear Mr. Deeter,

I am asking you to please, with all of my heart, support H.B. 2233 Municipal Buildings Act.

Thank you,
Diane Ellis
Life-long Wichita resident

Dear Mr. Deeter,

My personal perspective on Century II in Wichita is that it has been one of the centers of my life for the last 54 years.

To make the point quickly, in 1967 our group, Wichita Theatre Organ, Inc., was authorized to seek an organ for the under-construction building. We were successful in purchasing,

installing, maintaining, and presenting concerts on the most prestigious organ of its kind in the world, the former New York Paramount Wurlitzer. I, personally, have led the organization from 1967 to the present.

Over the years, we have presented something like 200 concerts, made perhaps 2 dozen recordings, and various broadcasts on the instrument.

So, Century II has been a very large part of my life literally since before the building was finished.

To give some perspective on the organ, the entire weight of the instrument is 66,000 pounds. It required 4 1/2 vans to transport to Wichita, and approximately 12,000 man-hours of restoration to install the organ as it currently is. All of the costs for that work were accounted for by WTO. The City built the "shelf" upon which all the pipework and chest and other parts rest. I say that to point out that moving the organ is a herculean task, and, needless to say, those volunteers like me who were 22 or so when we started, have too many trips around the sun to be volunteers to do it again.

This instrument is the most important organ of its kind left in the world. Please help us protect it.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Coup

Chairman of the Board

Wichita Wurlitzer

formerly Wichita Theatre Organ, Inc.

Dear Representative Kent Thompson and Representative Gail Finney,

I am urging you to share my letter with all the other house members that will be voting on House Bill no. 2233.

I am urging you to pass the Municipal Historic Buildings Act which will ensure that the citizens of Wichita are given a vote on whether to destroy Century 2 and the former Wichita Public Library.

Both of these buildings are iconic architecture which enhance the skyline of Wichita. It gives me pride to see Century 2 in a movie and instantly recognize that it is Wichita, Kansas. Century 2 is to Wichita as the Eiffel Tower is to Paris, the Statue of Liberty to New York City, the Golden Gate Bridge to San Francisco and the Arch to St Louis. Other Cities embrace their significant architecture and even give tourists architectural tours. Most places do not tear down landmarks but celebrate them!

I have been attending Music Theater and Symphony at Century 2 for 30 years; I have never experienced the building as dilapidated. It is a travesty that maintenance funds for Century 2 were diverted to pay developers for a hotel in the Waterwalk area. This alone is evidence that the voters need more say in the decisions that shape Wichita's future. I have always cherished the ambiance of the former Wichita Public Library and have wonderful memories of programs that I attended there. It would be a disservice to tear it down and replace it with a building that looks something like the new library or even to replace it with grass for a "park". Wichita city leaders just spent a lot of money removing Naftzger Park, but have a kooky plan to put a park where Century 2 and the former library stand. If city leaders really want a park they could put in an underground parking garage where all the current parking lot is with a grassy park on top much like what was created in Kansas City.

It is a mistake to believe that if Wichita wants a new performing Arts Center that Century 2 must be torn down. A new Performing Arts Center could be placed where Gander Mountain now stands and Century 2 could be repurposed. Numerous entities have been interested in buying the former library; although my preference would be that it continue as a public building in some form. Everyone is pleased that Wichita preserved the Historic Courthouse and the Historic Carnegie Library much like everyone in New York city is pleased that Grand Central Station was preserved; and everyone in Kansas City is pleased that Union Station was preserved.

I helped pass the petition to save Century 2. We gathered over 17,000 signatures which is no small feat given a covid pandemic. I can assure you that if the petition had allowed people from surrounding areas to sign that there would have been a multitude more signatures. I heard personal stories from many people about Century 2 and the library. Much like the Wichita River festival; these 2 buildings have brought in a lot of tourist dollars over the years. I am a Master Gardener and Wichita's Lawn and Garden Show held at Century 2 was renowned as better than Kansas City's and even the Philadelphia Garden Show. If a vote were put to the people I can assure you that they would vote to tear down Gander Mountain (a big box store) not either the iconic library or Century 2. Rome would not tear down the Colosseum and Paris would not tear down Notre Dame Cathedral - as a matter of fact Paris is raising funds to restore Notre Dame after it was devastated by a fire. So why would Wichita, Kansas start

over every 50 years? This is not the first time city leaders have wanted Century 2's land; over 20 years ago they wanted to replace it with a casino.

Please allow local citizen's a vote in the fate of these 2 buildings . Let the public know that you represent what they want rather than special interest groups. Vote to pass the Municipal Historic Buildings Act. A vote that will create more transparency and faith in the process which is so important when tax dollars are at stake.

Sincerely,
Sharon O'Neill
400 S Roosevelt
Wichita, Kansas 67218

My name is Deborah Harmon. I'm a life long resident of Wichita. I remember vividly Century 11 being built. I've attended numerous Symphony Concerts, graduations, school concerts, exhibits of all kinds, and plays in this building. Probably other thing I can't recall at the moment. My kids went to West high, what joy they each experienced as they paraded along the river to that Bld for their graduations, they owed that Bld for a few hours. It's become an icon in Wichita. I remember a news report of the blue roofing to match our Kansas sky. I've heard about the cost of fixing this building compared to tearing down to replace. I see so many building in Wichita being repurposed into fantastic apartment complexes, office building, even used for what they were originally only better. That is what should happen here, to our Century 11 bld. It truly has more life in it. There are concerts, plays, graduations, meetings of all kinds that would do so well there. I feel our government officials are not listening to we the people. They've made up THEIR OWN MINDS of what should happen. That's the problem with people in government, they DONT LISTEN TO US. It's time they did. Please, hear us loud and clear. We got more than enough petitions before. You chose not to listen to the people. We're speaking out again. Do as your constituents request.

It's an icon- please vote YES!
Sent from my iPhone
Karen Anderson

It is to Wichita, the Empire State bldg to New York City, the Sears Tower to Chicago. When you fly into ICT you locate Century 11 and know you are home.

P.S. Century 11 is Wichita's landmark !

The new library, air terminal, and Intrust arena are not even a close 2nd.

Larry Carey

Dear Legislators;

I am writing in support of the referenced Bill #2233.

Century II has been an exceptional building from the very beginning of its life. It has been used in so many ways and is important enough to be referenced in many magazines and newspapers as a special building well worth visiting Wichita to see. This outstanding architectural feat was planned by a student of Frank Lloyd Wright and is worthy of a long life and use in our city. As a longtime member of the Wichita Historic Preservation Board, I urge you to consider this bill as a part of your most important contribution to the state.

The former Wichita Public Library is also a beautiful and useful building that has a Historic Designation. I found so many historic facts when looking for family genealogy in the basement among books and machines with help from trained librarians. The new library is great, but the old one is still important to this city. One piece of evidence to its continued usefulness is the fact that it will now be used as a vaccine center. With its central location, parking and bus availability, how can it be thought of as past its usefulness.

The people of Wichita deserve to understand these facts and to vote to preserve them in downtown Wichita.

Yours truly,
R Elena Ingle

22 February 2021

2210 S. Oliver, Apt. 308
Wichita, Kansas 67218

Mr. Gary Deeter, Committee Assistant
House Local Government Committee
c/o Representative Kent Thompson
Kansas Statehouse
Room 187 North
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Mr. Deeter,

I am writing in support of the House Bill No. 2233 Municipal Historic Buildings Act. For the first nearly forty years of my life I lived some 25-50 miles from Wichita. Nevertheless, the Wichita Public Library, and Century II, were relatively early influences on me.

I have always loved architecture. When approaching the massive Library's front entry in Summer, one passed a lush decorative outdoor water pool. And in the Winter, that area was decorated with beautiful nearly life-sized angels. However, aside from their inherent beauty, these buildings shaped me in more tangible respects. One of my favorite Library areas was the genealogy/local history department. The

Library was one of my first introductions to research and librarianship, a line of work that I eventually pursued as an adult.

Century II is itself a masterpiece. However, it has also been used to encourage interest in architecture more broadly. Many of us remember the Century II Home Shows. A favorite pastime of a friend and I in our youth was to make miniature models of houses. Like many youth, I entered one of mine in one of a number of such Home Show-related contests.

I appreciate my Mennonite background and am conversant with that history, as it pertains to Century II. In 1974, it co-hosted the Wheat Centennial. Thousands participated and it was one of the convention center's first Mennonite-related events. Similarly, Century II housed much of the 1978 Mennonite World Conference, which our family attended. That convention was a highlight of my teenage years. Century II also hosted a 1995 Mennonite conference, including an art exhibit. And the 2015 Kansas Music Educators Association State Convention at Century II featured a premiere performance of a composition with text by Mennonite poet, Jean Janzen.

I appreciate the monumental efforts exerted in designing and constructing Century II and the adjoining Library. I am thankful for the many ways they have enhanced life in our state. Please honor those who have gone before us and preserve these gems for future generations.

Sincerely,

Bruce Entz

cc: Rep. Elizabeth Bishop
Sen. Mike Petersen

Dear Gary or To Whom It may Concern;

Some of my first memories are getting all dressed up and going to century two with my parents and grandparents. I have many wonderful memories over decades.

The arts inspire me , & Century II plays a very important role in continuing to inspire others.

Please save Century II.

Kimberly Heil

Representative McGinn,

I support House Bill 2233 saving Century II and the former Wichita Public Library.

Prior to moving to the area in 1975, Century II was THE primary identifier of Wichita, Kansas to our family. It still is. Yes, it is certainly a *Grand Building of Unusual Design*. Even today, people unfamiliar with it give a second look and comment on it's positive appearance. I was employed as Advertising Art Director at the Wichita Eagle in the 70's and 80's, and it was often prominently displayed in our promotional brochures encouraging large national companies to advertise in the Wichita readership market. (Wichita's located distance from Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Denver, Kansas City and Joplin gave major advertisers a good indication on consumer acceptance when introducing new products in a certain

geographically sized area). Over the years, it has become an iconic landmark representing Wichita to tens of thousands outside of Kansas. Should it be removed, others apart from of us will surely remember when it greeted them in aerial and ground views as 'The Round Building by the River' and inquire of themselves...'Wonder why they tore it down?...it was so interesting'...'When flying into the city, I always looked for it'... And for the ones returning from a long journey, it is always a 'Welcome Home' view.

And the former Wichita Public Library. This is a timeless design of architecture! Beautiful outside design and open and airy inside. The horizontal and vertical lines are even reminiscent of a Frank Lloyd Wright design. We all have spent hours of our live within it's walls have we not?

Surely both these structures could be utilized in some purposeful way without being destroyed. Consider the old Wichita City Hall Building. Was it at one time to be destroyed also? And the old Orpheum Theatre was considered for destruction. Fortunately, they were not, and Wichita is better for it. Please help save these wonderful buildings.

Terry Spencer

Park City, Ks

t.l.s@sbcglobal.net

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a registered voter residing in Wichita, Kansas. Century 2 and the former downtown library are historic landmarks integral to the Wichita skyline. The buildings were built and supported by taxpayer funds and their future should be determined by the people. I urge you to vote in favor of HB 2233 to ensure the public, not private developers, will decide the fate of these public buildings.

Sincerely,

Erin Devlin

Dear Sir:

I would like to request adoption of House Bill No. 2233, Municiple Historic Buildings Act, as I feel historic buildings belong to the people of the city whom have been paying a yearly portion, collectively, in our property taxes. These tax payments are, and have been our investment into the future of Wichita, Kansas for the 35-plus years, in my case; many more years in multitudes of Wichita residents.

Our Century II, being designed in the style of Frank Lloyd Wright, by his apprentices and is a multifunctional building with divided sections that allow several happenings in totally different private area when desired. Century II has been "home" to scores of family outings; starting, for my family, with the central focus of consecutive years of Wichita River Festival, field trips volunteering for the school system performances for children who might never have seen a professional performing arts venue, plenty of girl scout and charity functions, Darryl Starbird car shows, gathering at The Lawn and Garden Shows to satisfy our spring fever, Concert and Speaker's Events, Church Meetings, job fairs, craft fairs and entrepreneurial endeavors, marathon and fun runs headquarters, meeting place for peaceful marches, not to mention Century II's yearly FULL Schedule of performances with mega-volumes of

cultural and music performances... Many, many season ticket holders for Wichita Symphony, Music Theater Wichita, Our Own Wichita Corralion, being built INTO Century II.

The importance of the Brutalist Style of our old Wichita Public Library has been an icon of information housing an entire collection adult books and children's department, genealogy, audio, computer center, microfiche and periodical departments, 3 floors with both stairs and elevators. This building was in No Way Obsolete, Nor Inadequate for holding the weight that ALL of these departments would require in structure, when it was replaced. In fact, I have been told, that at the time it was built, the Library Board approved structural reinforcement that a 3rd floor could be added- - a fact that, I'm sure was disregarded when it was replaced. This is a Fantastic, airy, ceiling to floor windows, that could be converted into any useful space.

These are my reasons for believing these two Mid-Century modern buildings are STILL useful to the city of Wichita Citizens...we have an Investment them - they Belong to us. We have paid for them in a multitude of ways and these buildings have served us So Well!

Thank you for your kind attention, and

Thank you for your consideration,

Dot Trussell

Oh how I wish I could be with you, the rest of our House Government Committee members, and those in attendance who are representing the many constituents in Wichita who feel strongly about saving both Century II and the former Wichita Public library tomorrow.

First let me say I'm not normally a vocal person but the thought of somebody bulldozing down these two beautiful buildings is requiring me to speak up. At the very least citizens should get to vote on this matter. We've seen other buildings destroyed in this City without any regard to their place in Wichita's history. Residents were never given the chance to voice their opinion, usually didn't know about it until it was done. This is just not the way a democracy should work.

I've so many fond memories of both Century II and the Library. My daughters went to their first music theatre productions at Century II and various concerts and special events. My youngest daughter will tell anybody who'll listen the very first outing she remembers was the day I took her to the downtown library. My girls are grown up now and have young adult children of their own but they still remember both Century II and the Library for those special times in beautiful places. Wichita has many creative and

resourceful residents, let's give them the opportunity to repurpose the buildings and make memories happen for future generations.

Those of us fighting to save both buildings are forward thinking, intelligent people who simply can't continue to watch greedy developers do as they please without regard for the history of Wichita. Have you not noticed that, even on a National level, most all photos and videos pertaining to Wichita show Century II? Have you been to Boston? Seen their town hall building? Remind you of our library building? Enough said.

Please, we at least deserve the right to vote on the future of these two beautiful buildings. I'm sure there are many who feel exactly the same and we will be forever grateful for anything you can do to help us.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine (Geri) Farber

TO: Gary Deeter, Committee Assistant
House Local Government Committee

Mr. Deeter and Committee,

As a qualified elector I support House Bill No. 2233 because I deserve the right to vote on the issue referenced in the bill, specifically, the right to vote on the disposition of public building or buildings more than 80,000 square feet and placed on the national register of historic places.

House Bill No. 2233 speaks to the rights of the citizens of a municipality, a city. More than that, it speaks to the rights a city as an Entity, a Being whose perpetuation of spirit and character are at stake. The spirit of a city is housed, embodied, in the infrastructure and architecture of its past and present, sheltered and sustained there for its future. Electors, Citizens, are the soul of a city. They deserve the right to express their wishes for the disposition of their own body for the present and for future generations. Ancestry is held in trust by family members. Citizens of a city deserve the opportunity to exercise their rights of ancestral trust.

In the city of Wichita, Kansas, Century II and the former downtown public branch library are two physical, architectural and historical manifestations of the body of Wichita. The Wichita skyline is anchored by the dome of Century II. No other city can lay claim to its distinctive symbolic outline. One sees it and immediately identifies it as the heart of the city of Wichita. It bears witness to generations of shared experiences, perhaps some similar to my own family attending the annual Nutcracker ballet, often with multiple generations attending at the same time. The former public library stands monument to the dedication of Wichita's citizens to provide the opportunity for education, information, enlightenment and access of

learning for every citizen regardless of race, religion, gender, age or socioeconomic status. Both structures inspire and embody ideals of the soul of Wichita from its heart, the core of downtown Wichita.

Brick and mortar are like the bones and muscle of the body of a city, necessary to house and protect its soul and spirit. The right for citizens to express self-determination of their city's body hinges upon the citizens having the opportunity to vote regarding that self-determination. House Bill No. 2233 will empower citizens with that right.

Thanks and regards,

Melody W Lindensmith

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending." - C.S. Lewis

From: **C&H Investment** chinvest@cox.net

Subject: House Bill 2233

Date: February 19, 2021 at 8:00 AM

To: ga,y.deeter@house.ks.gov

Attention Gary Deeter:

This is to urge you to support House Bill No. 2233 and allow the citizens of Wichita to have a vote on what happens to the Century II and former public library building. These buildings hold much sentiment and importance for the citizenry. The events, arts, conventions and much more have been vitally important to all citizens, children to the elderly. The buildings are icon landmarks for the city and will continue to be in the future if spared demolition and ruination. The events for school children are sufficient reason to save them. Youth symphony, Wichita Symphony, Home School Conventions, Employment Seminars and workshops with job finding events are among a few reasons to maintain the buildings, not to mention the theater performances, craft fairs, various fairs and shows. These buildings are the fabric of the city and should be maintained for future generations. Please support House Bill No. 2233 to allow a vote to the citizens of Wichita.

Respectfully,

B. J. Tanielian

2250 N Rock Rd.

Wichita, KS 67226

February 10,2021

I know that I am dating myself but I remember growing up in Wichita. The Miller theater with an organ That played before the movies. Where did it go when the theater was torn down for a parking garage, I thought maybe Century II but that one came from New

York City, The Crawford Theater was on South Topeka I was born at the Wichita Hospital at Seneca and Douglas, The Allis Hotel was beautiful but it couldn't be saved because of structural problems and it is a parking lot now. At least the Continental bus station and the parking garage across from it were saved, The beautiful Missouri-Pacific train station on the North side of Douglas that was torn down for the Garvey Center. Updates for Century II were funded but funds were used for anything else except Century II When you travel to anywhere else in the states ,you see how they didn't tear down historical buildings they saved them. Is it too late to change here?

Edithj J Lalumia
6743 E. Abbotsford Dr.
Wichita, Ks 67206-1125

I support House Bill #2233 for a variety of reasons:

In Wichita we have 2 buildings that are now listed on historic registers Local, State & National. These buildings have both received architectural awards for their design. These buildings for over 50 years are indeed a part of our identity and give our city something unique that fosters both identity and civic pride.

Wasteful spending of tax payer money to destroy them not to mention shady backroom land and developing deals made by our City Council and selective developers.

The destruction via homogenization of our Mid Western cities. Promises that are never realized like if we tear it down and build something that looks like every city everywhere the city will prosper. Never happens.

I'm a native Kansan and believe we should preserve our heritage not tear it down.

Please support this Bill.

Sincerely,
Lynda Porter Rathbone
Wichita, KS

I highly House Bill No. 2233 for the following reasons

- 1) We have season tickets to the Wichita Symphony
- 2) I love to attend the Women's Fair And have done so for years
- 3) I love to go to the Home and Garden show Antique Car Show and the theatrical events such as Cats, etc.
- 4) It is very important for the City of Wichita and also very important for citizens to have a vote on what happens to these buildings

5) I will be attending tomorrow, Feb 24th on House Bill No. 2233 Municipal Historic Buildings Act @ 9:00 am in the House Local Government Committee, Celeste Racette, John Todd, and Karl Peterjohn will be testifying in person