

Monday, February 13, 2023

Legislative Testimony In support of HB 2292 – Kansas Apprenticeship Tax Credit for Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

Thank you for the opportunity to support HB 2292 a bill to support companies who are seeking to provide apprenticeships to new employees. The Kansas Economic Development Alliance, (KEDA), is a statewide organization that represents more than 125 economic development professionals across all of Kansas. The KEDA professionals understand that workforce is the number one issue for companies across the state. The apprenticeship tax credit program will allow companies to receive \$2,500 per apprentice up to a total of 20 apprentices per company. This financial assistance will allow companies to recover part of the high cost of employee training during the first year of employment.

We believe that HB 2292 is an opportunity for companies to use a tool that has been used for decades here in the United States to help workers learn new skills for all types of professions in all types of industrial sectors. Apprenticeships provide opportunities for workers to learn a new trade or skill while working on the job. The tax credit provided within HB 2292 will incentive employers to be creative in ttract additional workers back into the workforce who may have been out of work due to Covid 19 or other reasons.

KEDA fully supports the passage of HB 2292 and the tax credits that will be provided to companies taking advantage of this program.

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