



**Testimony to House Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Telecommunications
Support of HB 2527
Tuesday, February 6th
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 2527 which would create a more development-friendly policy so that utilities could invest capital in a fair way and attract more capital to the state. As a chamber representing rapidly growing businesses in Kansas and Missouri, we see HB 2527 as a key economic development bill that will help Kansas to be more competitive with surrounding states in attracting advanced manufacturing businesses and other industries.

Kansas needs more electrical power to attract business and industry. While nearby states, including Missouri offer a 10-year price incentive, the current Kansas five-year price incentive is actually a disincentive for business development in our state. The 10-year incentive reduces regulatory lag and sets other states up to grow access to power much more rapidly and therefore be more attractive to advanced industry that needs more power today than ever before. Chamber member developers tell us the availability of electrical power is now a key deciding factor in where they locate.

HB 2527 includes a Plant In-Service Accounting (PISA) mechanism that will allow a utility to capture most of the investment in makes in a system and fairly account for capital structure. Until Kansas adopts a more investment-friendly approach as in HB2527, the Chamber believes we will continue to lose development such as manufacturers and data centers to Missouri

The KC Chamber supports policies and legislation that allow Kansas to attract industry, jobs and economic growth and we believe HB 2527, specifically the Economic Development Rider, will continue to make Kansas competitive in the region but globally. We urge the committee to consider HB 2527 for passage.

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