



Senate Commerce Committee
Written Testimony in Support of SB 325
April 26, 2023

Dear Senator Erickson and Committee Members:

The Kansas Economic Development Alliance represents over 76 Kansas communities and counties with over 100 economic development professionals who work to bring new companies and jobs to the state of Kansas. Today we are supporting the Department of Commerce's bill for Electric Vehicle (EV) and Hydrogen powered vehicle assembly, component/subassembly manufacturers, their respective headquarters or research & development facilities.

Project requirements include a \$250 million minimum investment for assembly operations, at least 250 jobs within 5 years of start, base wages of 120 % or more of county median wage, project competition within 5 years of start. The company can combine HQ operations and R&D operations to meet capital requirements or job numbers.

In addition, there is abatement of taxes on construction materials used in the building, renovation or expansion of a qualifying activity. There is training assistance capped at \$5 million per project for community college or technical schools. There are also refundable capital tax credits and up to 100% of employee payroll withholding up to 10 years as determined by the Secretary.

In closing, the Kansas Legislature has supported numerous bills over the past several years including the APEX program which was so critical for the success with Panasonic in De Soto. Other communities have had strong growth from existing industries growing their operations. This new bill will provide support for new industry categories that will be expanding within Kansas due to other suppliers coming to Kansas. KEDA supports this bill and encourages the Ways and Means Committee to approve this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to express our thoughts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Mitch Robinson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

D. Mitch Robinson, 1st Vice President/ Co-Chairman
Legislative Committee
Kansas Economic Development Alliance