

March 18, 2024

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and our nearly 1,400 members, thank you for the opportunity to provide written only testimony in support of H.B. 2527.

The Chamber supports the legislation as it is a well-reasoned compromise reached between the state's largest supplier of electric power and several industrial and ratepayer groups. We believe it provides protections for ratepayers, while also enabling Evergy to take the necessary actions to provide power into the future.

As our state economic base grows, so too does the need for reliable electricity. Kansas policy needs to allow for Evergy to be ready for that growth so economic development opportunities may be seized by the state and not lost to our neighbors. H.B. 2527 helps ensure these opportunities come to fruition.

With that in mind, we urge you to report H.B. 2527 favorable for passage.

Very truly yours,

Jason P. Watera

Jason P. Watkins