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TO: Sen. Ty Masterson, Chair
Members, Senate Utilities Committee

FROM: Ashley Sherard, Vice-President
Lenexa Chamber of Commerce

DATE: February 12, 2020

**Support for SB 339 — Allowing the Kansas Corporation Commission
to approve special electric contract rates for economic development purposes.**

The Lenexa Chamber of Commerce appreciates the opportunity to provide input on SB 339, which would allow the Kansas Corporation Commission under qualifying circumstances described in the bill to approve special electric contract rates to help attract new industry to Kansas.

To foster a healthy and growing statewide economy Kansas needs a diversity of competitive economic development tools that can address a variety of business attraction opportunities -- large and small, capital-intensive and employment-intensive, urban and rural.

Accordingly, we believe SB 339 would strengthen the state's toolbox in competing nationally for large-scale projects that are heavy power-users, including sectors important to our economy today such as advanced manufacturing as well as sectors that will continue to grow in importance in the future such as data centers.

Specific to our Kansas City metro region, the bill mirrors what is already being successfully offered in Missouri, "leveling the playing field" for Kansas-side communities in competing for these important large projects.

Because we believe SB 339 would help Kansas better compete in attracting new industry to our state—bringing with it new jobs, investment, economic activity, and other benefits—while also including important protections for ratepayers, we urge you to consider the bill favorably. Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.