

House Commerce, Labor & Economic Development Committee

HB 2243 Proponent

Verbal Comments Via WebEx

Good afternoon. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak to you today. My name is Robyn Herzog and I am a Self-Advocate Trainer for the Self Advocacy Coalition of Kansas. SACK is a statewide organization run by and for Kansans with I/DD. For me, working in the community is what I choose, but many of my friends don't have that chance. That is why I am here today to support HB 2443.

Kansas became the first state in the nation to pass the Employment First Act in 2011. Ten years later we still have a ways to go to achieve the goals of the act. This bill will help.

I would like to ask for one amendment to the bill. Please consider naming this "Kathy's bill" after my friend and colleague Kathy Lobb who has continued to advocate for the State of Kansas to hire more individuals with disabilities for more than 20 years.

Thank you and I would be happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.