

April 27, 2011



Testimony of Hank Booth, Director of Government and Community Affairs

Lawrence Chamber of Commerce

Before House Committee on Appropriations concerning HB 2149

Mister Chairman and members of the Committee, I watched with great interest the opening day of testimony about HB 2149. I regret I will not be present tomorrow to speak. That testimony and committee members' questions led me to three key points to consider.

First, this is a solid investment in the future of Kansas education, economic development and rebuilding infrastructure at three Kansas institutions of higher education.

Secondly, this is a commitment to the business community of our state to provide the employees they will need to develop and grow their companies in Kansas and keep them here paying taxes, payroll and building our state's reputation to attract future development.

Finally, our kids in school today will compete in a global economy all of their lives. Many believe our nation's ability to compete in that market is eroding. This funding for the future engineers who will create our place in the new world economic order is critical for our future.

EDUCATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE FUTURE OF KANSAS AND THE U.S. IN THE WORLD ECONOMY.

Thank you for considering my comments.

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