

Date: February 10, 2012

To: House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development

From: Larry R. Baer

Assistant General Counsel

Re: HB 2561

Written Testimony in Support

Thank you for allowing me to appear before you today and present testimony on House Bill 2561 on behalf of the League of Kansas Municipalities and our member cities. HB 2561 would extend the STAR bond financing act for an additional five years, until July 1, 2017.

A number of significant projects and developments have been accomplished and/or are underway because of the financing options afforded under the STAR bond act. The most visible of these projects is the Kansas Speedway, Legends and associated areas in KCK/Wyandotte County. There are many others across the state, perhaps not as visible, but just as important to the local and statewide economy.

The STAR bond act has proven it is an important piece of legislation for both local and statewide economic development. For these reasons, the League stands in support of HB 2561. Please consider HB 2561 favorably.

Thank you for allowing us to submeit this testimony in support of the proposed legislation.