



Written Testimony submitted to the 2017 Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development in support of House Bill No. 2036

Presented by Textron Aviation, Wichita, Kansas
February 1, 2017

Chairperson Mason and members of the committee, Textron Aviation is pleased to offer written testimony today in support of House Bill No. 2036 relating to certain income tax credits for graduates of aerospace and aviation-related educational programs and their employers. This proposed legislation is worthy of consideration given its ability to positively impact the recruiting and retention of technical talent within the state.

Textron Aviation Inc. is the leading general aviation authority and home to the Beechcraft, Cessna and Hawker brands, which account for more than half of all general aviation aircraft flying. Textron Aviation has decades of unmatched experience in designing, building and supporting airplanes. It provides the most versatile and comprehensive general aviation product portfolio in the world through five principal lines of business: business jets, general aviation and special mission turboprop aircraft, high performance piston aircraft, military trainer and defense aircraft, and a complete global customer service organization. Importantly, more than 9,000 employees call Kansas home.

Our business relies on a pipeline of talent with aerospace and aviation-related educational programs. The opportunity to offer an income tax credit to such employees could serve as an additional tool to attract top talent from across the state and nation. As it relates to tuition reimbursement, we believe investing in our employees' continuing education is an important element for the success of our employees and our business.

We are pleased to voice our support for the intent of this legislation and ask the Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development for its consideration given the opportunity it provides to recruit and retain professionals in these critical technical and engineering fields.

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