

February 4, 2017  
Cynthia Sharpe  
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Dear Chairman Steven Johnson and the members of the House Committee on Taxation:

I am writing in support of Comprehensive Tax Reform (HB2237). In the 14 years I have lived in Kansas, I have watched our once strong economy crumble. I have watched our highways and other critical infrastructure languish without funding, our universities scramble under budget cuts, our schools close *early*, our most vulnerable suffer under Medicaid changes. Promised jobs and economic growth haven't simply 'not materialized', they've *cratered*.

We cannot simply continue to slash budgets to fix the crisis du jour. We need to fix the root cause of the crisis. Governor Brownback's model has demonstrably *not worked*. HB2237 begins to address the root cause of our state's abysmal financial situation, by sensibly reworking multiple taxes. I urge you to work in a bipartisan manner to fix our state's core budgetary issues, so that we, as a statewide community, can stop scrambling year after year to meet an eminently preventable shortfall.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Cynthia Sharpe