

Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
Written Support of House Bill 2107- *Biological products*
Presented by Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs



Thursday, March 16, 2017

Madam Chair and members of the committee, my name is Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2107 which authorizes the ability to substitute brand name drugs with biological drugs.

Each year the Kansas Chamber conducts a survey of 300 business owners from across the state during our legislative agenda development process to determine what issues are of biggest concern to businesses. This year, health care costs (44%) topped taxes (38%) as the issue business owners identified as most important to profitability to their company.

The majority of Kansans receive their health insurance through their employers. HB 2107 is a bill that could help employers realize savings through access to a less expensive biosimilar rather than a brand name biologic. More than 20 states have already passed this legislation including Missouri which passed this bill by a large margin.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer comments in support of HB 2107 which expands competition and access to alternative biosimilar options that could help lower health care costs for Kansas businesses.



The Kansas Chamber, with headquarters in Topeka, is the leading statewide pro-business advocacy group moving Kansas towards becoming the best state in America to do business. The Chamber represents small, medium and large employers all across Kansas.