



To: House Taxation Committee
From: Kevin Walker, Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Advocacy
Overland Park Chamber of Commerce
Date: 29 January 2020

Chairman Johnson and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the more than 800 business members of the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2005.

With the passage of the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, taxpayers were provided the opportunity to claim a significantly increased standard deduction when filing their federal tax return. For tax year 2018 the federal standard deduction was increased from \$6,350 for single filers up to \$12,000 and for married couples filing jointly the deduction rose from \$12,700 up to \$24,000. This change significantly increased the number of filers who claimed the standard deduction on their federal return.

Unfortunately, Kansas taxpayers are not allowed the option of choosing itemization if they claimed the standard deduction at the federal level. We believe Kansas taxpayers should have the option of using the standard deduction or itemizing – whichever option they choose – regardless of what option they chose on their federal return.

The Overland Park Chamber urges this committee to approve HB 2005.