



**Overland
Park
Chamber™**

To: House Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Committee

**From: Kevin Walker, Senior Vice President of Public Policy
Overland Park Chamber of Commerce**

Date: 13 January 2020

Chairman Tarwater and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2045.

In order to grow Kansas businesses and our economy overall, it is important that we have a variety of sources of financial support to aid business wherever they may be in the process of growing their enterprise. For many innovative startups, access to capital is as critical to have as it is difficult to find. This is the niche that is filled by angel investors. Angel investors play a critical role in business startups providing financing for entrepreneurs when more traditional sources of financing are not readily available.

HB 2045 amends and extends the angel investor program in Kansas.

The bill increases the maximum allowable credit for a single business to \$100,000 from the current \$50,000 and caps at \$350,000 the maximum allowable tax credit for a single investor. Additionally, the incrementally increases the total amount of tax credits that are allowed by law until the maximum availability of \$8 million per year is reached in tax year 2026.

We believe angel investors are important to the future of the Kansas economy in that they provide critical working capital to innovative business that find challenges securing more traditional financing. These investors undertake significant risk and

supporting their efforts by incenting their investment in start-up businesses in our state is appropriate. We encourage this committee to support passage of HB 2045.