



**House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Neutral Testimony on House Bill 2433
Presented by Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs**

Thursday, March 18, 2021

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber represents small, medium and large businesses of all industry segments across the state. We also serve as the Kansas Retail Council, representing retail businesses in the state on issues impacting their business.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony as a neutral party to House Bill 2433. This bill, known as the INFORM Act, was brought to us by a member late last year. We have a divided membership on the subject. In the short time we had before the 2021 session started, we tried to find consensus among our members but were unsuccessful in those efforts.

The premise of this bill is to combat a growing trend of retail theft, where products are stolen from stores and sold on third party websites. We understand the need to take proactive steps to address this concern, but also understand concerns on the requirements this bill would place on businesses operating in the state.

Therefore, if this bill fails to move forward this session, our request would be to give us the opportunity to get our members together to craft a compromise solution that we can bring back for the 2022 session for consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to testify as a neutral party to the bill, and I am happy to answer questions at the appropriate time.