

Date of Testimony: February 7, 2022

Bill Number: Senate Bill 375

Disposition: Proponent

Testimony: Written

Conferee: Jonathon Goering, 316.305.2769, [jonathon@thriveallencounty.org](mailto:jonathon@thriveallencounty.org)

Name of Interest: Jonathon Goering, Thrive Allen County



February 4, 2022

Jonathon Goering  
Economic Development  
Thrive Allen County  
9 S. Jefferson Ave  
Iola, KS 66749

Re: Senate Bill 375 Testimony

To the Committee on Federal and State Affairs,

I am writing to express my support of Senate Bill 375. My role as the economic development leader for Allen County means I am deeply committed to the county's economic well-being. And a significant component of a county's economic health is intimately linked to housing.

Allen County, like many rural Kansas counties, struggles to meet its current housing needs. For example, in the last five years only four houses have been built in the City of Iola, yet the city tears down that many houses or more every year due to their inhabitable conditions. Demand for new housing consistently outpaces availability.

One of the key reasons why new housing does not get constructed in Allen County is because it has no local builders. Lucrative opportunities exist in larger metropolitan areas where economies of scale can be attained. What's more, those builders willing to work in rural communities often must travel hours to reach them. This bill would drive interest in rural housing by facilitating investment in development and construction through tax credits.

I ask the Committee on Federal and State Affairs to support Senate Bill 375. It will be a gamechanger for rural Kansas communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathon Goering". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jonathon Goering  
Economic Development  
Thrive Allen County