

Testimony before Senate Commerce  
House Bill- 2022 Wage Withholding  
Presented by Eric Stafford, Senior Director of Government Affairs



Wednesday, February 13, 2013

Madam Chair and members of the committee:

The Kansas Chamber is pleased to support House Bill 2022 which amends statute allowing in limited circumstances, employers to withhold wages where money is owed from an employee.

Kansas' laws regarding wage withholding are overly restrictive. House Bill 2022 improves on language introduced last session in House Bill 2627 by adding more clarity for specific instances when wages may be withheld.

The first provisions apply throughout the course of employment only after written authorization from the employee. The second section (subsection c) relates specifically to the final paycheck which adds additional clarifying language regarding efforts by the employer to recover their property such as tools, mobile devices, intellectual property, etc., in addition to repayment of a loan, overpayment and merchandise language found in subsection (b).

Allowing these few exceptions would relieve employers of administrative burdens associated with collection of money rightfully owed to employers by eliminating the step of receiving a written agreement for these withholdings from an employee. This can be difficult to near impossible in cases where the employee no longer works for the employer.

In closing, we feel the changes made under House Bill 2022 would go a long way in simplifying administrative operations for employers in our state and we would ask for your support.



*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.*