

**Testimony before Senate Commerce Committee
House Bill 2069- Paid Sick Leave/Time Off
Presented by Eric Stafford, Senior Director of Government Affairs**



Monday, March 18, 2013

Madam chair and members of the committee:

My name is Eric Stafford. I am the Senior Director of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to support House Bill 2069.

There is a growing trend of states and local units of government mandating paid sick leave and paid time off, a benefit not required by the federal government. These policies have the largest impact on small businesses that are reliant on part-time employees for their business. This bill also prohibits local units of government from requiring more than minimum wage as required by law.

House Bill 2069 would prevent local units of government from requiring paid sick leave or paid time off from work. These policies put businesses at an economic disadvantage to competitors, either within the same state, or metropolitan area. For example, if the city of Topeka were to pass such an ordinance or law, but Shawnee County did not, businesses inside city limits would face an additional financial burdens than those outside the city limits.

To close, we do not believe local governments should be adding additional mandates on businesses that are not required by federal law. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to speak in support of House Bill 2069. We encourage your support for the passage of HB 2069.



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.