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Collectively, our member organizations represent over 500,000 working Kansans.

SMART Transportation Division

Kansas Organization of State Employees

Laborers Local 1290

International Association of Fire Fighters

Kansas National Education Association

Kansas Coalition of Public Retirees

Kansas AFL-CIO

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 304

Kansas AFT

UFCW Local Union 2

Teamsters Joint Council 56

Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes Division - IBT

Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen - IBT

Wichita Hutchinson Labor Federation

Tri-County Labor Council of Eastern Kansas

Kansas Chiropractic Association

Pipefitters Local 533

Service Employees International Union Local 513

Greater Kansas City Building & Trades Council

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 124

Boilermakers Local 83

Bakery, Confectionary, Tobacco Workers & Grain Millers Local 218

Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council

Salina Area Workers Coalition

Working Kansas Alliance
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Kansas City, KS 66106
www.workingkansans.org

To: Senate Commerce Committee

From: Jake Miller, Executive Director of the Working Kansas Alliance

Date: April 26, 2023

RE: SB 325 Proponent Testimony - Written Only Testimony

Chairwoman Erickson and Members of the Committee,

I write to you today to urge your strong support in passing SB 325. SB 325, or as it has been referred to as the Transformation of Passenger and Freight Industry Act, would attract numerous new businesses to the State, with serious capital investment. Additionally, it would create new good paying jobs across the State.

With the announcement of the Panasonic development, Kansas has been placed on the map for economic development. The ripple effects we have seen from Panasonic has been tremendous in terms of job creation and people moving to Kansas. SB 325 takes the Panasonic development and finds a way to expand on that.

Numerous businesses will be in the market to try and be located close to the Panasonic plant. As such, they will likely go wherever the incentives take them, especially since Missouri is so close to the Plant. SB 325 allows Kansas to stay ahead of the curve and to likely win additional developments.

Even in instances not related to Panasonic, we know now that developments within the EV and hydrogen powered vehicles sector comes with very large capital investments. As such, SB 325 not only will attract business wanting to be close to Panasonic but will also attract new businesses for other areas of the State.

Finally, the clawback provisions of SB 325 allows the State to move forward with this incentive package with little risk. If a Company doesn't hold up their end of the bargain under SB 325, then they would have to repay the State for any of the incentives received. Due to this, Legislators should have little fear of risk in passing SB 325.

Should there be any questions from the committee, please do not hesitate to reach out to jdm235@gmail.com.

Most respectfully,

Jake Miller
Executive Director
Working Kansas Alliance

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