

# Kansas AFL-CIO



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## TESTIMONY (Written Only) SB 325

### Senate Committee on Commerce

By Andy Sanchez, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

KANSAS AFL-CIO

April 26, 2023

Chairwoman Erickson and members of the committee, thank you for this opportunity to share our **SUPPORT** on SB 325. The bill seeks groundbreaking opportunities for the State of Kansas in the emerging technology of electric powered and hydrogen powered passenger and freight vehicles.

As a state, our ability to incentivize the growth of this industry means significant opportunities lie ahead for our members and the rest of the citizens of Kansas, for perhaps generations. It is our understanding that \$250 Million capitol investment is being requested with some guarantees of 250 jobs, with a base wage of 120% or more of the county median wage. Our ability to provide jobs for our members must come through this legislature. That partnership with government, business and labor will allow all involved the ability to provide opportunities for Kansans to prosper. This is exactly the type of collaboration we, as a state should be doing to provide a future for Kansas' workforce.

At our most fundamental missions is our ability to make quality training available. Since our organization is made up of both manufacturing and construction, it is particularly appealing that the legislation encompasses both sectors. Again, this solidifies our support when the bill enables no-cost opportunities that provide training utilizing yet another partnership of our Community and Technical College base.

On behalf of the 75,000 members we represent, we believe SB 325 can boost our local and our state economy and provide a bright future of hope for working

families and businesses. The Kansas AFL-CIO works hard to improve the quality of life for Kansas' workers. We know, as lawmakers you have those same objectives of showing the rest of the country that Kansas can be their home, and you can support and raise a family here.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 325. Economic growth can only come from investment in it's people. We wholeheartedly support SB 325 as accomplishing this and respectfully encourage your support.