



Testimony in support of Senate Bill 163
To the Senate Local Government Committee
February 14, 2023

Honorable Kansas Legislators,

Located at 2920 Haskell Avenue in Lawrence, Peaslee Tech was established by a consortium of partners, including the Economic Development Corporation of Lawrence, the City of Lawrence, Douglas County, the Chamber, local industry, and private donors. Peaslee Tech's mission is to grow a workforce, rich with technically skilled individuals, within the Lawrence and Douglas County communities. Peaslee Tech is not a community or technical college. We are a training center supporting Douglas County organizations and residents.

Peaslee Tech opened in August of 2015. Since that time, Peaslee Tech has developed 26 career training preparation programs and more than 700 online programs and courses. Peaslee Tech offers programs and courses to support several sectors, including Transportation, Building Trades, Skilled Trades, and Healthcare. Additionally, Peaslee Tech offers apprenticeships and open enrollment in Industrial Maintenance, Automotive Technology, Auto Body Repair, Electrical, Plumbing, HVAC, and Facilities Maintenance. Clinical Dental Assistant, Veterinary Assistant, and Drafting (AutoCAD).

Additionally, Peaslee Tech hosts several partner organizations that provide GED, ESL, and automobile driver training. Peaslee Tech is also the site of the Lawrence Workforce Center.

Peaslee Tech is requesting legislation be enacted in the 2023 session of the Kansas Legislature to enable the Douglas County Commission to make a ballot proposition, that if approved by the majority of voters would levy a 0.50 mill property tax fund to support Peaslee Tech.

Sincerely,

Kevin W. Kelley, PhD

CEO

Peaslee Tech