



February 5, 2025

Members of the House Committee on Taxation
Kansas State Capitol
Room 346-S
Topeka, Kansas

RE: House Bill 2208

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

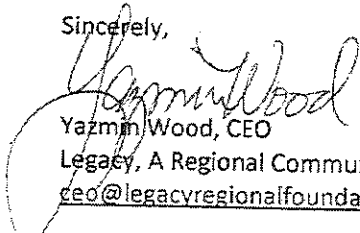
My name is Yazmin Wood, and I am privileged to serve as the CEO of Legacy, A Regional Community Foundation. Legacy, A Regional Community Foundation serves south-central Kansas including Cowley, Sumner, and Chautauqua counties and surrounding areas. As a leader in area philanthropy, our Foundation works diligently to carry out our mission "to enable anyone to GIVE to needs and opportunities in our communities, to GROW resources to preserve regional wealth and to GRANT funds for collaborative impact. GIVE. GROW. GRANT." Though we are a small community foundation with only \$11.7 million in assets under management, in 2024 we provided over \$2.2 million in grants to local nonprofit organizations and charitable projects to support capacity for health, children's programs, community development, human services, education, arts and culture, and scholarships.

I am writing to express our support for HB 2208 "concerning taxation; relating to income and privilege tax credits; enacting the endow Kansas tax credit act; establishing a tax credit for endowment gifts to certain endowment funds held by qualified community foundations."

The tax incentives for charitable giving provided by HB 2208 will aid Legacy in growing our vital permanent unrestricted and field of interest endowment funds. An infusion of a funding source with the flexibility of unrestricted endowment would make it possible for our small, rural communities to proactively and skillfully intervene in addressing critical and unforeseen, emerging needs. As we work to create a culture of collaboration throughout our region to reduce duplication of services and address the root causes of our challenges, the tremendous need for additional financial resources is an issue. HB 2208 will be a tool in addressing that issue.

We respectfully request your action to support and advance HB 2208. Thank you for your serious consideration of this important legislation for the future of Kansas.

Sincerely,


Yazmin Wood, CEO

Legacy, A Regional Community Foundation

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Legacy Regional Community Foundation grows area philanthropic and nonprofit efforts by connecting donors with critical needs in our community, instilling informed leadership and building endowments to create a stronger, healthier and more prosperous region.

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