



MCPHERSON COUNTY
**Community
Foundation**

Building the Community of Our Dreams

February 4, 2025

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

RE: Support for House Bill 2208

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the McPherson County Community Foundation, I respectfully submit this letter in strong support of HB 2208, the Endow Kansas Tax Credit Act. This legislation would establish a tax credit for endowment gifts made to qualified community foundations, providing a vital tool to strengthen local philanthropy and long-term community investment.

The McPherson County Community Foundation serves as a trusted partner for residents across our county, administering funds for the Moundridge, Inman, and Marquette Community Foundations. Our mission is to ensure long-term financial stability and respond to evolving community needs—something that robust unrestricted endowment funds make possible.

Why Unrestricted Endowment Funds Matter

In an ever-changing world, unrestricted and field-of-interest funds enable community foundations to address emerging needs and priorities effectively.

In 2022, we launched a three-year initiative to assess and align grant funding with community priorities. For two consecutive years, surveys across our eight communities identified key concerns: placemaking, mental and physical health, economic development, leadership programs, and childcare.

To support these needs, we committed \$50,000 per year in grants. However, we received over \$200,000 in requests annually—leaving a \$150,000 funding gap that underscores the need for stronger unrestricted funds.

HB 2208 would provide a meaningful tax incentive for donors while equipping community foundations with the resources necessary to address pressing local challenges. By advancing this bill, you empower Kansas communities to build sustainable, locally driven solutions.

We urge the Committee's favorable consideration of HB 2208. Thank you for your time and service to our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Becky Goss", written in a cursive style.

Becky Goss

President/CEO

McPherson County Community Foundation