



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:

On behalf of the Coffeyville Area Community Foundation, we are writing in support of 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 Coffeyville Area Community Foundation serves people and charitable needs in the Coffeyville, Montgomery County area.

As the Executive Director of Coffeyville Area Community Foundation, and as Executive Director for 25 years, we have personally experienced the value and significant impact of unrestricted and community endowed funds. The flexibility of unrestricted community endowed funds provides us with the ability to respond to emerging charitable needs and opportunities addressing a broad range of initiatives which benefit our communities now and in the future.

The flexibility of unrestricted funds has allowed us to serve our community. For example, unrestricted funds have allowed our community foundation to support a project providing 500 books monthly to children 0-5 years of age (lifetime total distribution 72,858 books); an after-school program providing tutoring and enrichment activities to 391 children daily; our local foodbank which distributed 38,702 sacks of groceries to 3881 food insecure people; and, a program providing 1095 people with food and clothing. Grants from the unrestricted endowed fund have made a significant impact on the lives of many children and families.

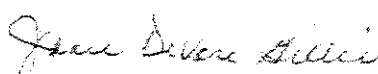
Building flexible funds means we can continue to support important projects as well as respond to immediate needs as they arise. During the flood of 2007, Coffeyville Area Community Foundation coordinated and facilitated conversations with 20 nonprofit organizations to address emergency relief as a community. In addition, with a decline in population, we see an urgent need to lay the groundwork for the future now. Having access to flexible funds ensures that we can make a meaningful difference in our community.

We strongly support HB 2208 and encourage the Committee to advance this bill. By establishing a tax credit for endowment gifts, this legislation will help to strengthen community foundations across Kansas and ensure that we can continue to support the communities we serve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


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