

Written Testimony in Support of HB 2340

Kansas City Kansas Chamber of Commerce

March 11, 2025

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Renee Hadley, and I am the President and CEO of the Kansas City Kansas Chamber of Commerce. Our mission at the KCK Chamber is to advance, advocate, and sustain a pro-business environment in Wyandotte County. We proudly represent over 450 members from across the metro and champion pro-business legislation on their behalf and in collaboration with the Wyandotte Economic Development Council.

Thank you to the Legislature for the progressive actions taken in passing the APEX Act in 2022, which facilitated the Panasonic investment here in Kansas. This development is impactful not only to the state but also to the region, including Wyandotte County due to its proximity. Our residents have the opportunity to join the Panasonic team, where they will earn high wages in advanced manufacturing. The Panasonic development is generating direct and indirect business opportunities that we in the region are eager to attract to our communities.

Ensuring the continuation of these opportunities is paramount. Therefore, we support HB 2340, which aims to remove unnecessary regulatory hurdles for the ongoing development of the former Sunflower Ammunition Plant.

This property offers several unique advantages. Companies can reach 85% of the U.S. by road or rail within two days from this location. There is potential for a state-of-the-art transload facility operated in conjunction with our KCK Chamber member, BNSF Railroad. The site has access to industrial water rights and the potential for an onsite industrial water treatment facility. Within a 45-minute drive, there are more than 400,000 professionals across various fields, including management, engineering, computer science, manufacturing, production, and fabrication, many of whom are from Wyandotte County. The ripple effects throughout the region are significant for our members and our community.

We respectfully request that this committee advance HB 2340. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Renee Hadley
President & CEO
KCK Area Chamber of Commerce

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