HOUSE BILL No. 2276

By Committee on Taxation

Requested by Representative Hoheisel on behalf of CATALYST

2-5

AN ACT concerning income taxation; relating to credits; providing an income tax credit for an eligible small business that purchases qualified local news organization advertising.

 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) For taxable years 2026 through 2029, there shall be allowed a credit against the tax liability imposed under the Kansas income tax act for an eligible small business that purchases qualified local news organization advertising from a local news organization.

- (b) (1) The amount of the credit shall equal 50% of qualified local news organization advertising expenditures for the first taxable year an eligible small business earns the credit and 25% of qualified local news organization advertising expenditures for each taxable year thereafter.
- (2) A taxpayer shall be limited to a maximum amount of credit of \$5,000 for the first taxable year an eligible small business taxpayer earns the credit and a maximum amount of credit of \$2,500 for each taxable year thereafter.
- (c) Any unused credit amounts may be carried forward for up to ten taxable years immediately following the taxable year for which the credits were allowed. The credit shall not be refundable.
- (d) Every taxpayer claiming a tax credit under this section shall submit a certification signed by a representative of each local news organization that the taxpayer purchased qualified local news organization advertising with the taxpayer's income tax return form. A local news organization must certify on the form that the local qualified news organization qualifies as a qualified local news organization and that the taxpayer purchased qualifying local news organization advertising.
- (e) An entity that knowingly issues a false certification under subsection (d) shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$5,000 and not more than \$10,000 for each false certification issued.
 - (f) As used in this section:
- (1) "Advertising" means providing consideration for the publication, dissemination, solicitation or circulation of visual, aural, spoken or written communication, directly or indirectly, to:
 - (A) Induce any person or organization to purchase a good or service

HB 2276 2

or to contribute to a cause; or

- (B) raise awareness of a brand, good, service or issue.
- (2) "Eligible small business" means any entity that employs individuals in Kansas where the average number of full-time employees employed by such entity during such taxable year was less than 50.
 - (3) "Local news organization" means an entity that:
- (A) Engages professionals to create, edit, produce and distribute original content concerning matters of public interest, through reporting activities, including conducting interviews, observing current events or analyzing documents or other information;
- (B) meets membership requirements of the Kansas press association or the Kansas broadcasters association.
- (4) "Qualified local news organization advertising" means amounts paid or incurred in the ordinary course of a trade or business for:
- (A) Advertising with a product, service or other offering that is fully owned and operated by a local news organization; or
- (B) advertising or underwriting on any broadcast radio or television station licensed by the federal communications commission to serve a local community.
- Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.