

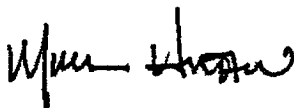
**TESTIMONY OF MARK HUTTON**  
**BEFORE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**HB 2149**  
April 26, 2011

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee my name is Mark Hutton. I am the founder and CEO of Hutton Construction Corporation, a mid-sized general contractor operating primarily in the State of Kansas. I am writing today in support of House Bill 2149 that provides funding to for the State's Engineering programs at Kansas State, Wichita State, and Kansas University.

Virtually all paths of business lead thru the engineering disciplines at some point in its life cycle. Whether it is in product design and development, manufacturing controls and processes, applications, or as entrepreneurs seeking new markets, engineers often times are driving business direction and profitability. The contributions that engineers make to the Kansas economy is enormous and in order for Kansas to continue to compete in a global market place we must continue to be a leader in producing some the highest respected engineering graduates in our nation.

HB 2149 provides funding to insure that Kansas remains a leader in producing engineering graduates. I urge you to not look at this as an expense to the State but as an investment in our States future. HB 2149 will provide the critical funding necessary to maintain our place in producing this important resource and help insure that the Kansas economy will remain vibrant.

Respectfully submitted



Mark Hutton  
Chief Executive Officer

