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ANNIE TIETZE
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Chairman Brown and committee,

HB 2450 enacting the Kansas small, minority and woman owned business development act.

Carl J. Schramm, President of the Kauffman Foundation said “For the U.S. to survive and continue its economic and political leadership in the world, we must see entrepreneurship as our central competitive advantage. Nothing else can give us the necessary leverage to remain an economic superpower. Nothing else will allow us to continue to enjoy our standard of living.”

These words apply to Kansas in the form of small, minority, and woman owned businesses. These businesses keep people employed, pay taxes, and keep most of their profits in Kansas where we need them. They represent more than ½ of the private, non-farm workforce as well as more than half the taxes paid to state and local governments. In Kansas there are about 60,000 small businesses with employees.

This act would encourage and expand that economic base in our state. It would develop, plan, and implement programs to provide opportunities for qualified businesses to participate in public contracts, identify barriers, maintain a certification list, and establish overall goals for participation.

Through this act, this development would occur through the Department of Commerce which would work to retain and attract small businesses for Kansas.

Rep. Annie Tietze