



## AIA Kansas

A Chapter of the American  
Institute of Architects

February 26, 2013

**TO:** Senator Lynn and Members of the Commerce Committee

**FROM:** Trudy Aron, Executive Director

**RE:** Opposition to SB 179

President  
Charles Smith, AIA  
Topeka  
President Elect  
Gwenda S. Gigous, AIA  
Topeka  
Secretary  
Timothy Clark, AIA  
Manhattan  
Treasurer  
Anthony Jacobs, AIA  
Wichita

Good morning Madam Chair and members of the Committee. Thank you for allowing the American Institute of Architects to provide this testimony in opposition to SB 179.

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Wichita  
Tim de Noble, AIA  
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David Dresher, AIA  
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AIA Kansas is a statewide association of architects and intern architects. Most of our 680 members work in over 100 private practice architectural firms designing a variety of project types for both public and private clients. Our members are designing tomorrow's buildings today, aiming to meet the "triple bottom line" by designing buildings that are affordable, protect the health and safety of the building occupants, and that respect our environment.

AIA Kansas understands the intention of SB 179 to mandate Kansas workers on state contracts. However, we have a long standing policy against preference statutes.

Why? Architects pursue work in many states, not just Kansas. In addition, some of our firms have multiple offices in different states. Depending on the expertise of the staff in one office, a project in Kansas could have members of the firm in another state providing those specific services.

In addition, most states match preference laws in another state with the same in their state. This means a Kansas firm seeking work in Oklahoma would meet the same obstacles in Oklahoma as an Oklahoma firm who seeks work in Kansas.

AIA Kansas asks you to reject SB 179 and allow firms to compete fairly on the basis of their merits. Thank you.

Executive Director  
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