



WICHITA METRO  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

February 20, 2013

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce and our nearly 1,700 member businesses, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in support of S.B. 123 and S.B. 124

The Wichita Chamber's top priority is to create a business environment in Kansas that fosters growth in employment and allows for the creation of wealth for all Kansas citizens. Based on that commitment, we are very concerned with the economic ramifications from the Kansas Supreme Court Decision in O'Brien v Leegin Creative Leather Products case.

This decision overrides more than 60 years of precedent interpreting the Kansas Restraint of Trade Act. The outcome of the case has the real potential to void almost all franchise and dealer agreements within the state of Kansas, among others.

Without such agreements and the security they provide for all parties to such agreements, business both in and outside of Kansas will be reluctant to enter into business relationships in our state. The effect on jobs and commerce will be chilling.

We urge that you either amend the current Kansas Restraint of Trade Act and return to the understanding prior to the O'Brien v Leegin case, or simply repeal the act altogether.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.

Best regards,

Jason Watkins  
Director Government Relations

Senate Judiciary Committee

Date: 2-25

Attachment: 13