

**Testimony before House Federal & State Affairs Committee
HCR 5022 – Regulation Freedom Amendment
Mike O’Neal, Kansas Chamber CEO
March 8, 2016
(Written only)**

Madam Chairman and members of the Committee

The Kansas Chamber is pleased to submit written testimony in support of HCR 5022, which urges Congress to propose the regulation freedom amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This proposal fits squarely within our Board approved Legislative Agenda for 2016. Our organization supports free enterprise and supports a regulatory climate that promotes a healthy business climate and instills regulatory certainty through policies that:

- **Defend the rights of business and industry from burdensome state and federal regulations.**

We applaud the U.S. House of Representatives for its bipartisan support of the REINS Act to require Congress to approve significant federal regulations before they can take effect but prefer that such protection be made absolute within the U.S. Constitution. Constitutional amendments should be rarely considered and only under extreme conditions. We respectfully submit that the unprecedented level of use of federal regulations to circumvent Congress over the past 7 years in particular qualifies as extreme circumstances warranting Constitutional protection of American citizens and entities affected by overreaching regulations that threaten the economic fabric of our country.



“...to continually strive to improve the economic climate for the benefit of every business and citizen and to safeguard our system of free, competitive enterprise”.