

Smoky Hill

Development Corporation

The Honorable Les Mason, Chairman
Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development Committee
300 SW 10th Street, 112-N
Topeka, KS 66612

RE: Support of HB 2168 “Ad Astra Rural Jobs Act”

Chairman Mason and Committee Members:

Please accept this as a letter in support of HB 2168, the “Ad Astra Rural Jobs Act”. The Smoky Hill Development Corporation, the economic development arm of Ellsworth County, feels this bill will continue to create investment opportunities in critical industries throughout the majority of Kansas.

We have reached a new environment in business development, long gone are the days of true incentives and state involvement in new ventures. As economic development directors we are now operating with less tools, but expected to produce more as local and state revenues decline.

The focus of economic development has shifted to local and private investments. This legislation gives an additional incentive to help our new entrepreneurs find their niche and have the capital to see their dreams come true. If the goal of the current administration, and this legislative body, is to create more jobs, recognize potential growth, and see the Kansas economy flourish HB 2168 is the first step of many that are needed.

Thank you for your service, time, and consideration of HB 2168. Our goal in the economic development community throughout the state is the same as yours; create new business, jobs, and bolster our population.

Sincerely,



Rob Fillion
Executive Director