



WICHITA INDEPENDENT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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Rep. John Barker
Chair, House Committee on Federal and State Affairs
300 SW 10th Street, Room 346-S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee,

I am writing to let you know of our support for HB2173.

We fully support the right of the citizens of Sedgwick County to vote on allowing slot machines at the Wichita Greyhound Park. As we understand it, not only would it be up to the people of Sedgwick County to determine whether to allow the machines, but the referendum would first require 5,000 citizens to sign a petition requesting such a vote. This is truly democracy in action.

We are also appreciative of the economic benefits of this bill should the citizens of Sedgwick County approve a referendum. As an independent business association, we are constantly working to improve opportunities for small business owners and consumers while supporting efforts that provide new jobs and new revenue to our governmental units. This bill would increase employment, expand the tax base and provide new development opportunities for additional growth in Sedgwick County. These benefits will help all of us in Sedgwick County as we work to move our county forward through growth, efficient service delivery and jobs for our families.

Again, we support HB2173 and urge you to vote for its passage.

Sincerely,

Chad Stafford

Chad Stafford, WIBA Board Chair
Wichita Independent Business Association

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