

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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ANITA JUDD-JENKINS
80TH DISTRICT

House Taxation Committee
Testimony in Support of HB 2341
Monday, February 27th, 2017

Chairman Johnson and Members of the Committee,

I am appearing today in support of HB 2341.

Currently 77 Kansas counties are included in the Rural Opportunity Zone Program (ROZ), providing eligible state income tax abatements and student loan reimbursements to new Kansas residents. HB2341 will allow Cowley County, my resident county, the program opportunities enjoyed by our neighbor counties.

Our recruitment capabilities of drawing individuals to our industries, our Community College, our rural hospitals, and our school districts are paramount to our vitality. This State program will provide the ability for Cowley County to participate in partnership with industry and state funding and provide these additional tools.

Income Tax Abatements: Qualified individuals receive a credit for entirety of their Kansas State income tax liability for any qualified year (available 2012-2022).

To qualify individuals must:

1. Establish residency after having lived immediately prior outside Kansas for 5 or more years.
2. Earned less than \$10,000 in Kansas resource income in immediate prior 5 years.
3. Maintain residence in ROZ county for entire taxable year.

And/Or but not mutually exclusive

Student Loan Reimbursements: Qualified individuals may receive student loan payments in equal shares of up to 20% of their outstanding student loan balance, for a maximum of \$15,000 over 5 years.

To qualify individuals must:

1. Establish residency in participating ROZ county after having lived immediately prior outside Kansas for 5 or more years.
2. Must have associates, bachelors, or post-graduate degree prior to residency.
3. Must have current outstanding student loan balance.

I ask for your support of HB 2341 so that our south central rural county may enjoy the benefits so many of our state's rural counties have enjoyed since 2012.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anita Judd-Jenkins". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rep Anita Judd-Jenkins, District 80