



2107 Industrial Dr., McPherson, KS 67460, P: 620-241-6693 F: 620-241-6699 www.mccls-ks.org

March 10, 2017

Honorable Senator Caryn Tyson
Chairperson
Kansas Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee
Kansas State Capital Building
Room 548-S
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, Ks. 66612

RE: SB 211

*Doug Wisby
pro/oral?*

Dear Senator Tyson and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

I am providing written testimony on behalf of Multi Community Diversified Services a community service organization that has provided services to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities for over 42 years. I also represent Cartridge King of Kansas, a company that was created over 22 years ago to provide employment to persons with significant disabilities in an environment that offers supports that they may not find in a typical community job placement.

Senate Bill 211 provides for a 15% tax credit on the purchase of products and services produced by persons who are blind or severely disabled in Kansas. It is the intent of this bill to move persons with severe disabilities off of Medicaid and the Home and Community Based Waiver to gainful, community employment with companies that are:

1. Non-profit.
2. Have a primary purpose of employing persons who are blind or severely disabled.
3. Pay minimum wage or better.
4. Offer health insurance or contribute towards the cost of insurance.
5. Produce products and services that are cost and quality competitive with what is available in the marketplace.

The benefits to the state are many:

1. State General Fund savings of over .45 cents on every dollar of Medicaid spent on waiver services.
2. Additional state income tax revenue for wages paid to employees.
3. The Capture of sales tax revenue for purchases made in state vs. out of state (if no use tax paid).



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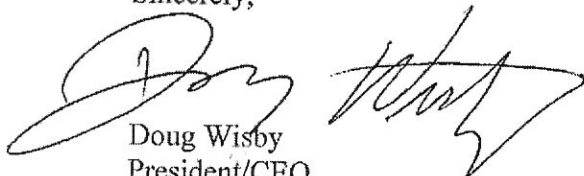
4. The turn of dollars kept in the state of Kansas as wages paid. I.E. additional sales tax dollars received, etc...
5. Individuals who are now covered under commercial health insurance not Medicaid.

Intangible benefits:

1. Increased self-esteem for individuals who now work.
2. Reductions in behaviors and hospitalizations for individuals who can now work and provide for themselves and their families.
3. The state and society benefits when individuals can be more productive.

This bill is a rare win for everyone involved. Please support the passage of SB 211.

Sincerely,



Doug Wisby
President/CEO
MCDS/ Cartridge King of Kansas.