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To: Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee
From: Jason A. Gage, City Manager - City of Salina
Subject: HB 2036 Written Testimony - In Support

Request

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding HB 2036. As you know, this bill provides certain tax credits for aviation and aerospace education programs and employers. The City of Salina is very appreciative of your time to consider this written testimony and respectfully requests that you support the passage of HB 2036.

Reasons for Our Support

We believe this bill is good for Salina and other Kansas communities for the following reasons:

- The aviation and aerospace industries are two of Kansas' strongest business industries with strong growth potential;
- These two Kansas industries must expand in today's highly competitive national marketplace in order for the Kansas economy to grow over the long-term;
- HB 2036 creates a twofold incentive to stimulate aviation and aerospace business activity by 1) creating an impactful incentive for aviation and aerospace college graduates to stay in Kansas by offering an employer tuition reimbursement tax credit, and 2) establishing a more competitive salary environment to retain these same graduates through the use of an additional tax credit;
- Salina is working diligently to grow these business sectors by supporting both Kansas State University Polytechnic's applied science programs and local business growth initiatives; and
- We anticipate that HB 2036 will become a major job growth and retention factor for the aviation and aerospace industries both in Salina and for other communities across Kansas.

Requested Action

This bill will help to preserve and enhance Kansas role in the aviation and aerospace industries. As a result, we respectfully request that you support HB 2036.

Thank you for considering our legislative request!