

State of Kansas

Senate Chamber



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To: Sen. Julia Lynn, Chairperson, and members of the Senate Commerce Committee

Re: Testimony in support of SB 185

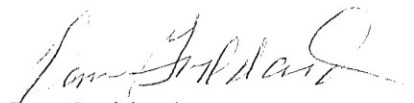
Good morning Madame Chair and members of the committee. My name is Dan Goddard, State Senator for the 15th Senate District encompassing Montgomery, Neosho, and Labette counties.

I am here this morning to testify in favor of Senate Bill 185. The bill simply authorizes utility franchises for redevelopment districts which encompass a federal enclave such as a closed military installation.

Since these redevelopment districts and redevelopment authorities, if established by a Board of County Commissioners, do not currently have the power to establish a utility franchise, they are hampered in their economic development efforts even though they have basically the same infrastructure and responsibilities of a municipality.

The franchise fees are capped at 6 percent and there are restriction on the use of funds listed in the bill. The net effect of this bill is removal of a barrier to economic development in the State of Kansas. I urge the committee to favorably consider Senate Bill 185.

Thank for the opportunity to testify this morning, and I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.


Dan Goddard
State Senator, 15th District