

Testimony in Opposition to SB434

Kansas City Kansas Chamber of Commerce

Chairwoman Julia Lynn

Senate House Committee

Thursday, March 6, 2018

Madam Chair and members of the committee,

The Kansas City Kansas Chamber of Commerce, and its members, support a fair and comprehensive distribution of STAR Bond revenue in such a way that provides for the best long-term benefit to the community, and advances KCK as a positive place to live and conduct business. Additionally, the KCK Chamber strongly supports a local government process that includes the KCK business community in public discussions on how the STAR Bond revenue distribution should be advanced.

In its present form, we believe SB434 limits STAR Bond use as an economic tool that has been vital to the creation of new projects, new jobs and capital investment in our community and across the State of Kansas. It is for this reason that we oppose SB434. The first STAR Bond projects were in Wyandotte County, and projects like Kansas Speedway, Village West, and Children's Mercy Park stand out as transformative projects that have benefitted KCK community and the State of Kansas.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 434.

Respectfully,

Michael Smallwood
Chair, KCK Chamber Legislative Committee
Owner, Smallwood Lock Supply

Daniel Silva
President & CEO
KCK Chamber of Commerce