

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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LES MASON
73RD DISTRICT

January 30, 2019

To: House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Re: Testimony in favor of **HB 2044**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

It's my pleasure to support the passage of **HB 2044**, which provides tax credits for those who purchase from vendors that provide employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Returning members may remember this bill from last term as **HB 2416**, which ultimately passed the full House 122-0, but languished in the Senate.

Dynamic economic modeling of **HB 2044** would show a net positive fiscal impact. Increased sales for the vendors means additional employment opportunities, plus health insurance benefits, for disabled individuals. The intent is to turn tax consumers into tax payers, and eliminate the necessity for a Medicaid waiver. That alone would save the state more than the tax credit offered.

Thank you for your attention and consideration. I would respectfully request that the committee recommend **HB 2044** favorably for passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Les Mason", written over a horizontal line.

Les Mason