



February 20, 2020

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and our nearly 1,700 members, thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of H.B. 2625, AN ACT concerning paper or plastic carryout bags and other single-use plastic items; prohibiting the regulation of such items by municipalities.

H.B. 2625 would prohibit a municipality from enacting or enforcing any ordinance, resolution, regulation, charge, fee or tax relating to the use by stores or food service establishments, or the provision to their customers, of single-use plastic carryout bags, paper carryout bags, single-use plastic stirrers, single-use plastic straws, expanded polystyrene food service products or any single-use plastic product

The Chamber stands in strong support of this legislation as a matter of supporting public policies that keep Kansas as competitive as possible when it comes to recruiting and retaining jobs. The Chamber supports uniform regulation across the state whereby firms doing business in Kansas with multiple locations are assured of a regulatory scheme that is both understandable and predictable. Cities creating a patchwork of regulations causes confusion and increases the cost of doing business in the state.

With this mind, we respectfully request that the Committee report H.B. 2625 favorable for passage.

Thank you and I am happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.

Very truly yours,

Jason P. Watkins  
Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce