



# **Finney County Economic Development Corporation**

**HB 2131 TESTIMONY  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RURAL REVITALIZATION  
LONA DUVALL, PRESIDENT/ CEO  
FINNEY COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
February 14, 2019**

Chairman Hineman and Members of the House Committee on Rural Revitalization,

Thank you for allowing me to testify on behalf of Finney County Economic Development Corporation in support of House Bill 2131, the Spur Kansas Growth Act.

Communities across Kansas are working diligently to grow and sustain themselves. However, there are few tools in the economic development toolkit to allow many communities — especially smaller, rural communities the opportunity to attract new businesses. The Spur Kansas Growth Act has the potential to assist these communities greatly.

Many of the projects our smaller communities are working to attract are simply not large enough to qualify for the existing Department of Commerce tools which include HPIP and PEAK and therefore can't qualify for the sales tax exemptions associated with them. Oftentimes, it only takes a small incentive to close the gap and allow a project to be successful.

As with all economic development incentives, the goal is to allow for an incentive up front with the understanding that the long-term benefits will far outweigh the short-term concessions. When new project create jobs and make capital investments in our communities, we have the opportunity to recoup these upfront investments in new business.

We urge you to approve the Spur Kansas Growth Act and we thank you for assisting our rural communities as they strive to grow and sustain themselves.

*Lona DuVall  
President/CEO  
Finney County Economic Development Corporation  
114 W. Pine Street  
Garden City, KS 67846  
620-271-0388*