

SCOTT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE INC.



February 12, 2019

Rep. Don Hineman, Chair
HOUSE Rural Revitalization Committee
Kansas State Capitol
300 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka KS 66612

RE: Written Only Testimony In Support of HB 2131

Dear Representative Hineman:

Thank you for considering the testimony provided by Scott County Development in support of House Bill 2131, affectionately dubbed the "Spur Kansas Growth Act". This legislation is important to Scott County. Our community has been diligent in identifying effective ways to reverse population decline over the past decade. Our efforts are working! Currently, we lack proper "tools" to enhance our ability to attract and retain business to rural Kansas. The Enterprise Zones were helpful and effective, but expired on December 31, 2012.

Scott County businesses utilized the project sales tax exemption program numerous times during its tenure under the "Enterprise Zones". For a mere three-year period from 2010 through 2012, when the program expired, these projects recorded \$209,860 in sales tax exemptions claimed while creating 40 new jobs (in a town of just over 4,000) at an average salary of \$30,404. The important factor in renewing this very effective economic development incentive is: these sales tax collections will be unrealized if the projects are not built, making the proposal **revenue-neutral**.

PLEASE VOTE TO ENACT THE "SPUR KANSAS GROWTH ACT" by supporting House Bill 2131. Thank you for carrying HB 2131 on behalf of rural Kansas.

With Sincerity

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Eisenhour". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Katie Eisenhour, Executive Director

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