



House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

Testimony in Support of House Bill 2297

Presented by Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs

Friday, February 19, 2021

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber represents small, medium and large businesses of all industry segments across the state. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2297, which would grant discretion to the Secretary of State to utilize private market sources for the printing and binding services for the state.

Several years ago, the state issued an RFP for a government efficiency study. Ultimately, the firm Alvarez and Marsal was selected to conduct a review of state agencies and bring recommendations to the Legislature. Some of those recommendations suggested outsourcing more services to the private sector. While this specific proposal was not part of that study, we maintain a strong position to support outsourcing services to the private section when such an option is available.

HB 2297 would grant the Secretary of State's office the authority to potentially outsource printing and binding services to private sector companies (page 6, section 9, and New Section 1, page 1), in accordance with the state's procurement and bidding statutes. If this change would allow private companies the chance to fairly compete for these services, we believe that is a positive change.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2297, and I am happy to answer any questions at the appropriate time.