

March 11, 2022

Dear Chairman Smith and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of House Bill 2732, Gage Park Improvement Authority.

My name is Rich Wells. I am the Vice President of Operations for Security Benefit, one of Topeka's largest employers. For decades, Security Benefit has supported many of the entities that operate in Gage Park as we see that Gage Park supports the quality of life for people that live, work and visit in our community. My personal support has included service on the Friends of the Zoo Board including serving as President of the Board.

Your support of this bill will allow our local community to determine how we want to continue funding improvements in Gage Park. Your support of this bill will allow our community to determine how we value the future of Gage Park so that it's next 100 years can be as vibrant as the past 100 years.

Support of this bill is the next right step for positioning Gage Park for the future and sustained success.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Wells