



ASLA PRAIRIE GATEWAY

February 23, 2021

Sean K. Simms, ASLA
President, Prairie Gateway Chapter
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American Society of Landscape Architects
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RE: Written Neutral **Testimony of SB137**
Senate Commerce Committee
February 23, 2021

Dear **Chairman Olson and Members of the Committee:**

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to address our concerns about SB137 on behalf of the Prairie Gateway Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (PGASLA). ASLA is an active advocate for the profession of Landscape Architecture at the local, state, and national levels on public policy involving licensure, the environment and sustainable design, livable communities, surface transportation, historic preservation, and storm-water management issues, among others. The Prairie Gateway Chapter represents over 160 licensed Landscape Architects throughout the State of Kansas and the western 1/3 of Missouri.

PGASLA supports the underlying intent of SB 137 to assist new residents, military, and military spouses to become licensed in Kansas in an accelerated fashion. However, we believe reasonable standards for licensure of the allied professions are represented by Kansas State Board of Technical Professions (KSBTP), including standards for awarding reciprocity to those licensed elsewhere, have been carefully developed and implemented in the State of Kansas. This bill could have a negative impact on the ability of the KSBTP to maintain reasonable standards for licensure, in professions where licensure safeguards the public health, safety and welfare

PGASLA respectfully request the committee amend the bill to add the State Board of Technical Professions to subsection (s), which allows them to measure substantially equivalent qualifications. If such amendment is adopted, PGASLA would support the amended bill and communicate our resolved concerns. Thank you for the opportunity to offer our thoughts on SB 137 and your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

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President, Prairie Gateway Chapter

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