



Legislative Testimony In support of HB 2334 APEX Deadline Extension

for Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Thank you for the opportunity to support HB 2334 to extend the life of Attracting Powerful Economic Expansions (APEX) in our state's economic development efforts. The Kansas Economic Development Alliance, (KEDA), is a statewide organization representing more than 125 economic development professionals from all corners of the state.

We believe that HB 2334 provides the ability to extend the life of this **economy-changing** tool. Clearly, the world economy has shifted since the pandemic, reordered global supply chains, and macro-economic forces far beyond our state's control. The APEX incentive tool has helped mitigate the long-term effects for our state's economy and budget by **attracting entirely new industries**. The Panasonic announcement in northeast Kansas in electric vehicle batteries and more recently, the Integra Technologies announcement in South-Central Kansas in semiconductors. These nationally recognized announcements are key to attracting new talent and workforce from neighboring states as well as key markets with this highly-skilled talent.

KEDA members, along with the Kansas Department of Commerce, are keenly aware there are more opportunities for new industries, high-quality jobs, and relocated talent with future APEX projects. **KEDA fully supports the passage of HB 2334** and its ability to help us continue to enhance our state's economy and welcome cutting-edge industries into our great state.

Submitted By:

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