



Feb. 3, 2023

To: House Taxation Committee Chair Rep. Adam Smith and the House Taxation Committee
From: Alan Carr, Executive Director, Visit Kansas City Kansas
Re: Written testimony in support of HB2182

Dear Chairman Smith,

On behalf of the Visit Kansas City Kansas please accept this letter in support of House Bill 2182, which will create a film and digital media incentive program that will spur economic development and workforce development in our state.

Visit Kansas City Kansas is a tourism-based economic development organization that uses the temporary movement of people—visitors, conventions and sporting events—to generate economic benefit for our community. We work to attract out-of-state visitors to “spend their money and leave” bringing new spending into the state that wouldn’t have happened otherwise. Film projects play a similar role, bringing together production crews for a day or weeks at a time and leaving behind money in the local and state economies by creating jobs, utilizing local vendors, patronizing local hotels and restaurants, and building a positive impression of the city and state.

Kansas is one of only 17 states in the country without film incentives as an economic development tool. The immediate economic benefits during a production are easy to quantify, but film projects can also have a long-tail impact, reaching untapped audiences, generating awareness, and creating a demand for tourism. Productions like *The Walking Dead* in Georgia, *Gone Girl* in Missouri or *Yellowstone* in Utah and Montana can attract visitors for years to come.

Film and tourism are important tools for economic development in the Sunflower State. Your support of this program gives Kansas a chance to compete for these projects...to find our *Yellowstone*. Thank you for considering House Bill 2182.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alan Carr".

Alan Carr
Executive Director
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