

March 7, 2023

Attention: Connie Burns (connie.burns@senate.ks.gov)
Senate Committee on Commerce
State Legislature of Kansas



Subject: Support for House Bill 2173

Chair Erickson and Members of the Committee,

Johnson Controls appreciates the opportunity to provide supportive comments for HB 2173.

Johnson Controls (JCI) is a leading global provider of heating, ventilating and air conditioning equipment, building controls, security and fire/life safety solutions which includes brands such as York, Metasys, Simplex, Grinnell, Zettler and Tyco. The company has more than 100,000 employees and 2,000 locations across six continents including it's 1 million plus square foot facility located at 3110 N Mead St, Wichita, KS 67219 where it presently employs 1000+ Kansan's and produces over 1 million air-conditioners, heat pumps and furnaces a year. In FY 22, JCI's Wichita operations purchased more than \$60 million worth of goods and services from over 300 Kansas based vendors for our 10 facilities.

HB 2173 will help to ensure that JCI Wichita remains at the forefront of the highly competitive HVACR industry both within the United States as well as internationally (e.g., Canada) by ensuring uniform building codes throughout the US and Canada and avoids a patchwork of different state regulations.

Without passage of HB 2173, JCI Wichita could be forced to build different air-conditioning and heat pump products for different states and Canadian provinces driving product proliferation, lowering scale, and resulting in increased cost to consumers. As the US American and Innovation Act¹ Act will ultimately prohibit production of air-conditioning and heat pumps utilizing the current refrigerants which are being phased out; JCI could also be forced to move production outside the US where such products would still be legal to be produced. At present there have been 10+ other states which have passed such legislation in support of this transition to more environmentally friendly refrigerants which have been proven safe and effective for many years in existing products such as window air-conditioners and heat pumps.

JCI thanks the Kansas Legislature for its important work on this bill to help ensure continued investment in Kansas and abroad.

Cont.

Respectfully, [SEP]

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris M. Fath".

¹ <https://www.epa.gov/climate-hfcs-reduction/aim-act>

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