

February 7, 2024

Senate House Committee on Federal and State Affairs  
Written Only Testimony by Tim McKee  
in Opposition to SB 446

Chairman Thompson and honorable committee members,

The Olathe Chamber of Commerce is writing to express our opposition to Senate Bill 446. We believe this proposed legislation poses significant challenges and drawbacks for current and prospective residents and businesses, ultimately hindering population growth, economic growth and job creation in our community.

The City of Olathe is diverse with more than 10% of its residents having been born outside of the U.S. Similarly, we have many foreign-owned businesses, such as TVH, Gunze Plastics, Hi Power and Aldi, to name a few that represent thousands of jobs and well over \$250M in investment in our local Olathe economy. Our primary concerns with SB 446 include:

1. **Increased Regulatory Burden:** The bill introduces additional regulatory requirements that may place undue burden on businesses, leading to increased compliance costs and administrative complexities;
2. **Impact on Small Businesses:** The proposed regulations may disproportionately affect our small business community, impeding their ability to compete and thrive in the local market, resulting in job loss and hindering entrepreneurial growth;
3. **Lack of Consultation:** We are concerned the business community has not been adequately consulted in the development of this legislation. It is crucial to involve key stakeholders to ensure any regulatory changes align with the needs and realities of Kansas businesses; and
4. **Negative Economic Impact:** SB 446, if enacted, would have a chilling effect on foreign investment in our region. Businesses will be hesitant to invest and expand, fearing the increased regulatory hurdles outlined in the bill. The brokerage community and site selectors with whom we work to recruit quality businesses to Kansas would look to our neighboring states that do not have similar constraining legislation.

We respectfully request you consider these concerns when contemplating adoption of bills such as SB 446. Thank you for your attention to this matter. We trust that you will carefully consider the potential consequences of SB 446 on our economy and take steps to ensure our current and future businesses can continue to grow and contribute to the prosperity of our community and the State of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Tim McKee  
CEO  
Olathe Chamber of Commerce



**OLATHE**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
ONE VISION. ONE VOICE.

