STATE OF KANSAS SENATE CHAMBER

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10227 THEDEN CIRCLE LENEXA, KANSAS 66220 (913) 406-0053

DINAH H. SYKES SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

March 4, 2024

Committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 359. I introduced an amendment to this bill to create a distinctive license plate for the Kansas City Current, our amazing women's soccer team.

Raising my family in the Kansas-City Metro area, we've always been soccer fans. Both of my sons played soccer through high school, and we've loved attending Sporting KC games. So you can imagine my excitement when women's soccer returned to Kansas City in 2020.

Part of why I want to highlight the Current is because of the unprecedented level of support the team's owners are providing for women's soccer. Thanks to owners Patrick and Brittany Mahomes, and Chris and Angie Long, the Current is the first team to have a soccer stadium built specifically for a professional women's sports franchise. These groundbreaking efforts are helping elevate the standard for women's sports and bringing female athletes the respect they deserve.

The Kansas City Current is putting a priority on taking care of and investing in our female athletes. They're setting the expectation and belief that women deserve the same as their male counterparts.

With this license plate, we're showing that we believe in women's soccer. We're showing that we respect women athletes, and I think that's something that women's sports have long needed and deserved.

Thank you to the Kansas City Current for investing in women's sports, and to everyone who has been supportive of this license plate. Let's go Current!