February 15, 2023 Testimony to the Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee

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BILL NUMBER: SB 169, Providing an income tax rate of 4.75% for individuals

PROPONENT, OPPONENT, or NEUTRAL: Opponent **ORAL or WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY:** Written Only

Dear Chair & members of the committee,

As a parent of two children who attended their entire K-12 years in schools that were not constitutionally funded due to major cuts to the state budget, first from a recession and then from an ill-advised tax experiment, I feel compelled to write to you today.

I urge you to oppose bill SB 169. We cannot afford another tax experiment in Kansas.

This tax proposal, although beneficial to wealthy Kansans and corporations, would hurt middleand low-income Kansans and greatly reduce the state general fund.

For a similar bill in the House, bill HB 2061, the Kansas Division of Budget has estimated a decrease in state revenues of \$1.5 billion. This will put our state at risk of not meeting its obligations and the needs of its citizens. We've been through a tax experiment before and we know what it did to our bond rating, our infrastructure, and our kids in public schools.

Our state now has a healthy budget. If you really want to help Kansans, stay focused on initiatives such as:

- Eliminating the food sales tax
- Providing an education tax holiday
- Fully funding special education
- Investing in mental health
- Investing in infrastructure

Legislators did the right thing in 2017 when they reversed the previous tax cuts that decimated our state budget. Please vote no on Bill SB 169.

Erin Woods Leawood, KS