

**Testimony before Senate Commerce  
Senate Bill 73- Work Comp  
Presented by Eric Stafford, Senior Director of Government Affairs**



**Monday, February 4, 2013**

Madam Chair and members of the committee:

On behalf of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Senate Bill 73 which makes mostly technical changes to the workers compensation statutes.

The Kansas Legislature passed House Bill 2134 in 2011, the first comprehensive work comp reform in almost 20 years. While that legislation was broad, this year's legislation looks to clean up statutes that were either overlooked, or could use further clarification.

SB 73 updates the American Medical Association (AMA) guides from the outdated fourth edition to the current sixth edition. SB 73 also adds language to clarify when someone is eligible for work disability. In this case, stating that if the employee is neither a U.S. citizen or authorized to work in the U.S., that person has no wage loss. This additional language strengthens changes made in 2011 on this issue.

SB 73 also deletes an outdated reference to a written 200 day notice from the employer which is no longer required. This language should have been deleted during the 2011 work comp reform.

In closing, these changes simply clean up statute and add clarity to provisions of the law which were negotiated in 2011. We would ask for your support of Senate Bill 73.



*The Kansas Chamber, with headquarters in Topeka, is the leading statewide pro-business advocacy group moving Kansas towards becoming the best state in America to do business. The Chamber represents small, medium and large employers all across Kansas.*