



January 10, 2017

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

On behalf the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and our affiliate organization, The Friends of McConnell, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of H.B. 2017.

The Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and our over 1,600 members value the contributions of McConnell Air Force Base to our regional and state economies. We also remain steadfast in our gratitude for the service and sacrifice our military men and women make in protecting our United States. The men and women assigned to McConnell are a critical element in the effort to preserve freedom and democracy across the globe.

H.B. 2017 would make statutory changes ensuring that American service members, including those assigned to McConnell, registered as voters in the Fourth Congressional District of Kansas would be able to receive and return their absentee ballots before the official election day. Therefore, we stand in strong support of H.B. 2017 and urge the Committee to report the legislation favorable for passage.

Very truly yours,

Jason P. Watkins