

House Commerce Committee HB 2731 Neutral Testimony Caroline Joiner – Regional Policy Lead March 15, 2022

Amazon is proud of its growth in Kansas. In fact, we have invested over \$4 billion in our people and operations since 2010. We have over 8,000 full- and part-time employees (and growing) including employees at six fulfillment and sortation centers, two delivery stations, three Whole Foods Markets, and two wind farms. There are also more than 10,000 small- and medium-sized businesses in the state growing their business on Amazon.

Customer trust is central to everything we do at Amazon. Amazon has the processes, technology, and teams in place to protect our sellers and customers by preventing fraudulent activity before it occurs. We leverage advanced technology and expert investigators to verify a potential seller's identity and ensure that only authentic and legal products are sold in our store.

On top of our preventive efforts, we believe the most effective way to stop organized retail theft is to provide greater resources for law enforcement to go after criminals. We have joined forces with Attorneys General in states like Illinois and Utah, establishing retail theft task forces. We also support legislation at the federal level, H.R. 5520, which gives online marketplaces flexibility in how we stop bad actors and does not favor one business model over another. We also think it is important to establish a national approach to this problem, preventing an unworkable patchwork of state-level regulations. For these reasons, we believe HB 2371 in unnecessary.