

Legislative Testimony

HB 2457

February 14, 2007

Testimony before the Kansas House Government Efficiency and Technology Committee

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Thank you Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee for this opportunity to share our concerns with a portion of HB2457.

While we do not oppose the entirety of the measure, we do take issue with the portion of the bill that would dissolve confidentiality of businesses receiving tax credits from the state. (Page 1, Lines 41-43 – Page 2, Lines 1-3)

Allowing a public list to be published annually would harm a Kansas company's competitive advantage. If a certain company is claiming a certain monetary amount in research and development tax credits, it sends a signal to their competitors they are working on a new product. This information should remain confidential so Kansas companies are not disadvantaged.

Tax credits are developed to increase investment in new equipment in jobs that will expand the Kansas economy and its tax base. If a company is claiming a tax credit, they are taking an active role in enhancing the Kansas economy.

It is also important to note that The Kansas Department of Revenue has broad authority to audit companies to ensure that all taxes are being paid are accurate and the tax credits claimed are correct.

These proposals would make Kansas an exception among the 50 states; we would not want to be one of the few states that expose confidential taxpayer information to public disclosure.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns of exposing the confidentiality of Kansas businesses.



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The Kansas Chamber, with headquarters in Topeka, is the statewide business advocacy group moving Kansas towards becoming the best state in America to do business. The Kansas Chamber and its affiliate organization, The Kansas Chamber Federation, have more than 10,000 member businesses, including local and regional chambers of commerce and trade organizations. The Chamber represents small, medium and large employers all across Kansas.