



**Written Testimony in Support of House Bill 2527**  
**House Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications**  
**February 6, 2024**

On behalf of the Kansas Economic Development Alliance (KEDA) please accept this written testimony in support of House Bill 2527 to help provide the electric infrastructure needed to keep the Kansas economy growing.

Kansas has enjoyed considerable success in the attraction of economic development investments across the state. When Kansas moves swiftly and aggressively to attract significant investment projects, we are successful. As the professional economic development organization in Kansas, we are ever mindful that maintain Kansas' economic momentum many resources are required –among them adequate utility capacity and electric infrastructure.

KEDA is pleased to see the state attracting major investment projects across multiple sectors. Most of these investments have ties to automation which requires more electrical power. We believe these are the kinds of investment projects we want to continue bringing our state. Ensuring Kansas has the generation and transmission capacity to meet the state's long-term economic development needs is a key factor in growing the state's economy.

We encourage the Legislature to support investment in the electrical infrastructure that provides a balance between ratepayer interests and the need for utilities making capital investments to earn a reasonable return. KEDA is concerned that if we do not support proactive decisions for electric grid and generation expansion, it will hurt our ability to be competitive. Because of the large capital costs and long lead times associated with upgrades for electric infrastructure, we support having these discussions now to be prepared for the future.

We appreciate your consideration of this legislation and your work to find a win-win solution that generates long-term economic growth in the State. Thank you for your service to the State and for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Mitch Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

D. Mitch Robinson, CEcD  
KEDA 2024 Board Chair