



**Written Testimony in Support of HB2387**

**Kansas City Kansas Chamber of Commerce**

**Senate Committee on Commerce**

**Tuesday March 12, 2024**

The mission of the Kansas City Kansas Chamber of Commerce is to advance, advocate and aid in maintaining a sustainable pro-business environment in Wyandotte County. The KCK Chamber of Commerce proudly represents over 450 members from across the metro and advocates for pro-business legislation on behalf of our membership.

The KCK Chamber has long supported STAR Bonds as a Public Policy Agenda Platform. In our 2024 Agenda, we affirmed our support for the continuation of STAR Bonds, which have been an unparalleled success in Wyandotte County. The Chamber also supports modification to the program that would factor in the historical or ethnic value of a project in addition to the financial value.

STAR Bonds have become an important economic development tool for cities across the state of Kansas. The first STAR Bond projects were in Wyandotte County, and projects like the Kansas Speedway, Village West, and Children's Mercy Park stand out as transformative projects that have benefited the KCK community and the State of Kansas.

Our chief reason for supporting HB 2387 is that it expands eligible uses of STAR bonds to historic theatres and major amusement parks. As mentioned above, this program has been incredibly impactful in Wyandotte County and we are supportive of new and innovative ways of utilizing this economic development tool.

The Kansas City Kansas Chamber of Commerce urges the Committee to favorably advance HB2387.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Silva  
President & CEO  
Kansas City Kansas Chamber of Commerce

**HERE IS A GOOD PLACE TO BE**