



To: House Taxation Committee
From: Kevin Walker, Senior Vice President of Public Policy and Advocacy
Overland Park Chamber of Commerce
Date: 5 February 2020

Chairman Johnson and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the more than 800 business members of the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2513.

Modern commerce taking place via the internet has reshaped the way business takes place in our world. The progress is hailed as a game-changer for the consumer and that is no-doubt true. Unfortunately, the change has also been a game-changer for the thousands of brick and mortar stores that support our communities and draw visitors to local retail trade centers.

The Chamber believes it is critical to level the playing field and help protect the businesses and the business owners who have invested in our communities. They hire our friends and neighbors. They support our local schools. They support our local charitable activities. These businesses support our local economy and should not be placed at a competitive disadvantage with a business entity who can escape taxation simply because they lack a physical presence in our community.

This bill helps level the playing field by ensuring that internet retailers and marketplace facilitators are collecting and remitting all taxes, including transient guest taxes.

We see this bill as basic tax fairness and we urge you to level the playing field by approving HB 2513.