

House Committee on Commerce Written Testimony in Support of SB 91 Submitted by Tim McKee, CEO

Chair Tarwater and honorable committee members,

The Olathe Chamber of Commerce is the largest chamber in Johnson County and the second largest chamber in the Kansas City area. Comprised of 1,300 members and growing, it was the first chamber in the state to receive 5-Star Accreditation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce - a designation obtained by less than 1 percent of the nation's chambers. Its mission is to be the voice of business that advances the economic well-being and quality of life in Olathe.

As the Olathe Chamber's CEO, I am submitting written comments in support of SB 91, which proposes to allow High-Performance Incentive Program (HPIP) to be transferable. HPIP is a tool that provides tax incentives to employers who invest in capital improvements for facilities and technologies upgrades as well as provide for above average wages. Examples of Olathe businesses who are currently using HPIP to invest in our state economy include Accelerate 360 and NIC and past recipients include DH Pace and TVH. These four companies collectively have added hundreds of jobs in Olathe.

Passage of SB 91 will make HPIP a more attractive economic development incentive to our existing businesses looking to grow their investments in Kansas. Thank you for the opportunity to submit these written comments in favor of SB 91. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 913.764.1050.

Tim McKee, CEO

Olathe Chamber of Commerce 18001 W. 106th St., Suite 160

Jim Wikee

Olathe, KS 66061-0098