



Testimony in Support of HB2499
John Federico; President Kansas Cable Telecommunications Association
House Taxation Committee
February 10, 2022

My name is John Federico, and I serve as the President of the Kansas Cable Telecommunications Association. KCTA members provide advanced telecommunication services including video, voice, and broadband to both urban and rural communities across Kansas. We join others, and respectfully ask for your support of HB2499.

Cable providers deploy more broadband services to Kansas homes and businesses than anyone else in Kansas. Since the inception of cable television, cable operators both nationally and in Kansas have been innovators in the development and deployment of advanced telecommunication technologies to meet customers' needs and demands. Since 2002, the cable industry has invested over \$300 billion dollars in infrastructure trying to deliver, *better* and *faster* to our customers. Nationally, America's internet builders have invested \$1.5 trillion of private capital to deploy broadband networks across the US, creating 1.2 million jobs in the process.

The importance of bills such as HB2499 become critically important in the state-by-state fight for scarce dollars available to our member companies, to incentivize invest in infrastructure and system upgrades in Kansas. It is no surprise that preference is given, among other considerations, to those states that are most economically favorable TO investment. It is for that reason that we do ask for your support of HB2499.

However, the KCTA does offer amendatory language for your consideration that "tightens up" some of the language in the bill. Specifically we would like to incorporate into the bill 1) the federal definition of "internet access service," 2) further define "provider" to match that which is currently defined in Kansas statute, and finally, 3) tie the reference to "telecommunication services" to the definition under the Kansas tax code at KSA 79-3602(aaa).

We have vetted these amendments with the interested parties, and there were no objections to them.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before your Committee Mr. Chairman, and am happy to answer any questions.