



**Testimony to Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs  
Proponent Testimony on SB369  
Wednesday, February 09, 2022  
The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce**

The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce (KC Chamber) supports SB369 that creates the Kansas affordable housing tax credit act to help facilitate investment in workforce housing that will support the growth of communities that lack adequate housing by attracting new employees, residents, and families and would support the development and expansion of businesses that creates jobs and wealth. The KC Chamber, representing nearly 2,000 businesses (40% of which are in Kansas), supports innovative strategies that improve access to safe, quality, healthy, affordable workforce housing. The KC Chamber also supports strategies that attract and retain talent in the State of Kansas and the Kansas City area and believes housing is a critical component to that.

In the last few years, the State of Kansas and the Kansas City area, much like the rest of the country, has experienced fast-rising housing costs while housing inventory has remained stagnant or fallen behind on rising demand. This has had a tremendous impact on homeowners, potential homeowners, renters and folks looking to move to the Kansas City area and Kansas. An important component to workforce attraction and retention is cost of living and, as a part of that, affordability of housing. At a time when Kansas is competing with other states to attract businesses and make it a lucrative place to move to or stay in, affordability is a crucial component of these factors. It is vital that we look at opportunities to spur investment in workforce housing. This bill can be just one more tool in the toolbox to help spur job creation and attract and/or retain workers for Kansas businesses.

The KC Chamber supports quality and affordable housing and housing developments for our underserved communities like urban and rural Kansas. The KC Chamber supports SB369 and urges the committee's support for the bill as well.

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