



Friday, February 4, 2020

Chairman Thompson and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony opposing SB 353, a bill which amounts to a departure from a dedication to the autonomy of Kansas residents and support of an American independent energy source. I offer my opposition to this bill on the grounds that it would lead to a variety of arbitrary and oppressive measures that are designed to make it functionally impossible for the wind industry to continue advancing in our state.

ALLTITE, Inc is a Wichita, KS, based company and by the end of 2022 we will have 130 employees. In business since 2003, we offer a unique suite of onsite and online services to answer the specialized needs of energy related industries for ISO Compliant organizations.

While we have always served oil and gas needs, today, more than 60% of our business is dedicated to wind turbine preventative maintenance and service. Diversifying this business has allowed us to have a steadier income when the volatility of oil and gas prices made business growth at times impossible.

ALLTITE has a "Kansas First" approach and attempts to hire locally whenever possible. Employing in the Kansas area allows us to adapt technicians to our culture, offer career pathways for future growth and overall promotes a more positive work atmosphere. We have received excellent feedback from our current customers (from across the country), enthusiastic about our Kansas team members as they have proven to be both respectful and industrious, which are key tenets of success in this industry.

This approach of hiring locally works only so long as Kansas remains a supporter of wind energy. Unfortunately, this bill would impede our Kansas-based approach and force us to begin hiring our workforce in other markets, altering both the wind energy side of our business along with the oil and gas services we provide.

As a Kansas-based business owner, I urge the committee to reject SB 353 and refocus its energy on policies that enable Kansas businesses to provide services related to our customer's energy choices, whether renewables or oil and gas. There's room at the table for an all-the-above approach.

Sincerely,

Anne Smith
Vice President of Opportunity
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