

SUPPORT PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN EV CHARGING (SB 380)

Dear Members of the Kansas Legislature:

Our companies and associations write in **strong support of SB 380**. It is essential that Kansas build a reliable, convenient and customer-driven electric vehicle (EV) charging market that is based upon a competitive, level playing field. The most efficient and effective way to build out this market is by embracing private investment and the inherent competition and innovation that comes with it. Several of the undersigned businesses are those who want to be a part of this expanding market. Many own and operate fuel outlets, convenience stores, grocery stores and restaurants in Kansas, each serving a vital role in their communities.

Passing this legislation will break down major barriers to private investment, which is needed to build out an EV charging network that will best meet the needs of drivers throughout Kansas. **We respectfully ask you to pass SB 380.**

This legislation allows for free market competition by:

- **Preventing electric utilities from using ratepayer funds to cover the costs of owning and operating publicly available EV chargers;**
- **Establishing a level playing field by ensuring all public EV charging providers operate under the same rates, terms and conditions as their competitors.**

Private businesses are ready and willing to build EV charging stations, but they are hesitant to make the considerable investment that fast charging infrastructure requires due to the prospect of competing with electric utilities, which have the ability to invest in EV charging stations using ratepayer dollars. By addressing this issue, SB 380 will level the playing field and empower private entities to invest in this emerging market.

Successful passage of SB 380 will help ensure that Kansas' EV charging market develops in a competitive manner. Additionally, it will send an extraordinary signal to many of the industries below that it is safe to invest in EV charging stations in the state of Kansas.

