

HCS HBs 2710 & 2681 -- SALES TAX EXEMPTION FOR NUCLEAR FACILITIES

SPONSOR: Brown (16)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Economic Development by a vote of 15 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 8 to 1.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 2710.

This bill authorizes a State and local sales tax exemption for all sales and purchases of tangible personal property, building materials, equipment, fixtures, manufactured goods, machinery, and parts for the purposes of constructing all or any portion of a nuclear security enterprise, as such term is defined in the bill, that is located in Kansas City.

This bill is similar to SB 1388 (2024).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that with the improved technological advancements to the nuclear facility in Kansas City, our security will be greatly enhanced. The economic benefit to the area surrounding the facility during its construction and after completion will be substantial, as new businesses and a number of new jobs result. Supporters further say that the tax breaks offered in this bill will be more than offset by the wages earned by the new employees.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Brown; South Kansas City Chamber of Commerce; City of Kansas City; Greater KC Chamber of Commerce; Civic Council of Greater KC; Terry Anderson, Promontory 150Llc/Platform Ventures.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that this bill is an example of corporate welfare in that the bill would give a blank check to several mega-corporations. Opponents further say that the facility will contribute to the production of nuclear weapons, which will result in many workers being exposed to toxins, leading to untreatable cancers and contaminated waterways.

Testifying in person against the bill was the Sierra Club Missouri Chapter.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.