STATE OF KANSAS

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To The Class of 2022:

Congratulations on a job well done! As you consider what's next, I want to make a pitch for why you should put your roots down here in Kansas. It boils down to a few things:

Kansas is a place to build a career. Kansas' unemployment just hit the lowest rate in recorded history. We're bringing in jobs from a diverse array of sectors, so when you're looking for your next job, or the one after that, there will be opportunities for you.

Kansas is a place to have fun. From hanging out on Mass St. in Lawrence, to windsurfing with friends at Cheney Lake, Kansas has limitless options for where to spend a Saturday afternoon. It also has one of the best sports scenes in the nation. If you haven't yet had the chance to cheer on our professional soccer team, Sporting Kansas City, join us. But I'll warn you in advance: Our fans are known to break a few decibel meters.

Kansas is a place to start a family. We're investing in our communities to ensure they're as family friendly as they can be. We've fully funded schools for four years in a row, and we've worked to make homeownership possible for Kansas families. As house prices rise across the country, Kansas remains one of the top ten most affordable places to buy a home. And just last month I signed bipartisan legislation to increase the production of affordable housing to lower the cost of buying a home even further.

Kansas is a place to call home. Here's how I like to put it: Kansas is moving forward, not backward. We are an up-and-coming state, one where you can achieve your dreams.

I hope you enjoyed your last four years here. I believe that if you stick with Kansas, you can enjoy even more.

Congratulations once again on your accomplishment.

Best,

Governor Laura Kelly