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To: Representative Gary Hayzlett, Chairman, Committee on Transportation
From: Donna Shelite, Director of Vehicles, Kansas Department of Revenue
Date: February 9, 2012
Subject: HB 2431

Chairman Hayzlett and members of the Committee, it is a pleasure to appear before you in support of HB2431 regarding Educational Institution plates. This bill as it was introduced allows for the collection of the Educational plate royalty fees at the County Treasurer's offices in place of requiring a certification statement to be presented.

Currently if a customer wanted to purchase an Educational Institution plate to display on their vehicle the process only allows for this to happen if first the customer has paid a royalty fee (donation) to the alumni association. Once this royalty fees is paid the alumni association would send the customer a certificate stating they had paid the required donation and were now eligible to acquire the educational plate. This certificate was then taken to their local County Treasurer and they would then be allowed to get their plate. When the renewal time rolled around the customer would once again have to obtain the certification from the alumni association and then bring this certificate to the County Treasurer to be able to register their vehicle and keep the educational plate.

This process has always been an unnecessary burden for the customers and I believe has lost sales of these specialty plates because of the requirements in place. Often times when customers are in the County Treasurer's offices renewing their tags they will see a specialty plate displayed and will ask if they can obtain one. Once the treasurer's staff explains the process many do not follow through to actually obtain the plate. Last spring I sat down with representatives from the County Treasurer's Assoc. and the Educational Institutions and we discussed the possibility of allowing the customers to pay their fee at the county treasurer's office. All were in agreement that this would allow for more of the impulse purchases and more than likely increase the sale of these plates.

After the bill was written and introduced the question arose as to the possibility of allowing other specialty plates to be added to this bill to allow the royalty fees (donations) to be

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collected at the County Treasurers office at the time of original application and also at registration renewal. I had conversations with Representatives, County Treasurers and some of the organizations who would have an impact from allowing this to happen, all those I spoke with were in favor of changing this process.

I have offered the Amendment to HB2431 and would ask that you would favorably support it. The amendment would allow for original application as well as renewal of the specialty plates by allowing the customers to pay the royalty fees (donation) to the County Treasurer. The plates that are included in this bill are:

- Educational Plates
- Ag in the Classroom
- Breast Cancer Awareness
- Children's Trust Fund
- Shriners
- Helping Schools
- Support Kansas Arts
- Boy Scouts of America
- Pet Friendly

This bill also addresses the disbursement of the royalty fees collected by the county treasurer to the organizations. Daily the funds collected for such plates will be transferred to the state, these funds will then be sent to the organization for which the fees were collected. The payment will be accompanied by a list of the vehicles in which the organizations plate will be displayed.

I believe this bill will help to increase the interest in these specialty plates as well as the organizations. I believe this is a win for all parties involved. I thank you for your time and would be happy to stand for questions.