

Testimony before the House Transportation Committee on HB 2749

by Tom Krebs, Governmental Relations Specialist Kansas Association of School Boards

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Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. We appear today as proponents of HB 2749.

Two years ago, we appeared as proponents to the proposed change to lengthen from 20 to 25 years the number of years a bus would fall under the regulations in relationship to its date of manufacture. We said, "The KASB board of directors in December (2009) voted as a priority the following statement as part of its beliefs regarding local decision making: School districts should have more ability to make decisions regarding the most effective use of resources in meeting the needs of their community." We believe that is still true.

We believe **HB 2749** fits that priority perfectly. Districts would always be able to replace busses earlier if necessary, but **HB 2749** would remove an arbitrary date for replacement and replace it with a district's decision that fit the district's need better when it comes to safety and expenditures. We trust our members to make those decisions wisely.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I'd be happy to stand for questions.