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February 11, 2013

KS House Committee on Taxation
State Capitol
300 SW 10th St.
Topeka, KS 66612

Re: HB 2136

Dear Chairman Carlson and Committee Members:

We are writing to express our concern about HB 2136. Professionals who influence growth projects will verify that transportation infrastructure is a key factor in business decisions.

The solid transportation system in the Salina region influences job creation and private capital investment decisions. In 2012, there were 49 growth project decisions and the ability to efficiently receive and ship materials and products was an important advantage. Wichita State University's Center for Economic Development and Business Research quantified the ROI to the State of Kansas's budget from these growth Salina projects as \$18,397,824.

The Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry's website says it best: "It's no secret that Kansas' location as the crossroads of America makes the state's transportation system critical to economic growth."

Continued funding of KDOT will allow more growth to occur in Kansas – especially at a time when it is badly needed to spur economic growth.

Thank you for your consideration and we urge to you oppose HB 2136.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dennis W. Lauver".

Dennis W. Lauver
President & CEO

Right place. Right reason. Right *now*.