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**Written Testimony in Support of SB 307
House Federal & State Affairs Committee
Tuesday, March 13, 2018**

Submitted by Jennifer Bruning, Executive Director, Kansas State Alliance of YMCAs

Chairman Barker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jennifer Bruning, and I am the Executive Director of the Kansas State Alliance of YMCAs, an organization that brings together 10 Kansas YMCA associations in 30 diverse communities around the state and serves almost 609,000 Kansans. At the YMCA, we're for healthy living, youth development, and social responsibility. Our mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

I am submitting written testimony today in support of Senate Bill 307 which amends several parts of the Kansas Amusement Ride Act passed by the Legislature last session. Many of our YMCAs have water slides, inflatable devices, or other mechanical devices that are now considered an amusement ride under the terms of this bill and are subject to the new regulations. We support the following changes:

- The definition of a qualified inspector would be changed from a level II to a level I certification from the national association of amusement ride safety officials. Several of our Ys have found it difficult to access qualified inspectors to certify their water slides, and this change would help expand the inspection pool to meet demand while still adhering to strict safety standards.
- The definition of serious injury would be changed to requiring admission and overnight hospitalization.
- All amusement rides manufactured prior to July 1, 2018, would have to meet certification that the ride qualifies as service proven under the ASTM international standards. This change would help several Kansas Ys that have "orphan" water slides (where the manufacturer is unknown or out of business) by allowing a level I inspector to inspect the ride and not require the expense of seeking the manufacturer certification.
- The heightdefinition of "Water slide" would be raised to mean a slide that is at least 20 feet in height and uses water to propel the patron through the ride.

All Kansas YMCA associations stand ready to be a community partner with the State of Kansas to make our water slides and healthy living attractions as safe as possible for the public. We urge your support for Senate Bill 307. Thank you.

KANSAS STATE ALLIANCE OF YMCAS

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