



A.B.A.T.E. OF KANSAS, INC.

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House Committee on Transportation

TO: **CHAIR:** REP. RICHARD PROEHL,
VICE CHAIR: REP. SHANNON FRANCIS
Ranking Minority Member: Rep. Adam Lusker

RE: HB2188

From: ABATE of Kansas

Date: February 8, 2017

Chairman Proehl, Vice Chair Francis, Ranking Minority Member Lusker, and Committee members.

I am Steve Christenberry, representing ABATE of Kansas, a motorcycle rights organization. I am here to provide support from our membership for HB 2188, which would increase penalties for individuals who violate the right of way in traffic and cause damage, injuries, and perhaps death to the persons whose right of way was violated. This bill does not single out infractions only involving motorcycles. Instead, it applies to all who use our roads and highways. It requires driver education and increases fines for anyone that violates another person's right of way. There are a myriad of factors that contribute to right of way violations, including distracted driving, momentary lapse of reason, and lack of education. HB 2188 would require those cited with right of way violations to attend driver education. AAA has an 8 hour Driver Improvement class that is available state wide by contacting their Traffic Safety Coordinator. This course is described by AAA as a defensive driving class, and is at times a court ordered requirement for various motor vehicle related charges. Fines for right of way violations would increase, in proportion to the level of damage or injury of the crash. ABATE of Kansas, and our members, support HB 2188, with the requirement of remedial driver education and increased fines as described in the bill.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue.

Steve Christenberry

Lobbyist

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