



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Kansas

Affiliated with:
American Council of Engineering Companies
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers
National Society of Professional Engineers
Professional Engineers in Private Practice

TESTIMONY

TO: HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

**FROM: SCOTT HEIDNER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ACEC of KANSAS**

RE: PROPONENT TESTIMONY REGARDING HB 2775

DATE: MARCH 15, 2018

Chairman Proehl and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. ACEC of Kansas is the trade association representing private consulting engineering businesses in Kansas. We are in support of HB 2775.

A new task force is needed to start planning for a new Kansas transportation plan. HB 2775 would create such a task force. While we have a couple modest concerns about details of the bill, we are here in support of HB 2775.

The T-Works program is drawing near its natural conclusion, and the lack of currently available funds make its final years far less productive than had been anticipated. This adds additional intensity to the need for another comprehensive, long-term transportation infrastructure program.

Investment in transportation infrastructure creates and sustains jobs, improves public safety, enhances the attractiveness of Kansas to new and existing businesses, and allows us to harness new and more efficient technologies that will save costs over the long term.

HB 2775 calls for no new spending, it simply brings stakeholders and policy makers together to begin the necessary study of the needs of Kansas and explore what the next program might look like.

We believe this task force should represent a diversity of transportation interests and viewpoints. Therefore, we suggest the bill's language be clear that a stakeholder group should have no more than one representative appointed to the task force.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you or committee members have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Scott Heidner, Executive Director

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