



**Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Hearing on Senate Bill 307
Hearing Date – February 6, 2018**

**Written Testimony in Support to SB 307 on behalf of the City of Manhattan
By Kiel Mangus, Assistant City Manager**

Good morning Chair Estes, Vice Chair Olson and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs. My name is Kiel Mangus and I am the Assistant City Manager for Manhattan.

The City of Manhattan supports SB 307 as written. While the City supports legislation that looks out for safety of our citizens, the amusement ride bill passed last session was cumbersome and unclear in the way it was written. The accident that occurred with an amusement ride last year at Schlitterbahn was truly tragic, and the model of such a ride for which that accident occurred was unique and very specialized in nature. However, locally owned water slides have been in place, and proven to be safe, for many years.

- The permit fee and yearly qualified inspections were an unnecessary step that came at an additional cost to the taxpayer. The City already had in place regular checks on all pool equipment to make sure they were operationally sound. The City is in support of reducing training levels from NAARSO level II certification to NAARSO level I certification, and AIMS level II to AIMS level I as written in SB 307.
- Language from the bill passed last session required notification to the Secretary of Labor if an injury occurred that required immediate medical treatment, which was excessive. The City supports the proposed language as written, which changes the language to notification of an injury that requires “immediate admission and overnight hospitalization, and observation by a licensed physician.”
- Furthermore, the City of Manhattan respectfully requests the Committee consider the changing the definition of “Water slide” from 15 feet to 25 feet, as well as changing language of the current bill to reflect “owner” responsibility rather than an “employee” or “operator” responsibility.

For all the above reasons the City of Manhattan supports SB 307, and asks the Committee consider the recommendation of changing the definition of “Water slide” from 15 feet to 25 feet. Thanks for your time and consideration.