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ADAM W. SMITH
120TH DISTRICT

Chairman Petersen and members of the Senate Transportation Committee,

The proposal in HB 2486 was brought to me by a constituent from a small rural community in western Kansas. His community had gone through the process of authorizing golf cart usage on their city streets, but they could not allow after-sunset usage because it is specifically prohibited by state law. Some communities may perhaps simply turn a blind eye and do it anyway, so I commend my constituents for respectfully following the proper process to make this small change in the statute to address their concern.

Many of the communities in my six-county district have a population of 1000 or less, with quite a few small towns of 200-500. These small communities have very low traffic density, and local officials know their streets and safety concerns best.

Key points:

- Municipalities can currently allow golf carts to operate on city streets of 30 mph or less during daylight hours
- Neither HB2486 nor current law MANDATES golf carts on streets, it is a local decision
- Local officials can, and typical do, adopt their own local regulations: including, but not limited to, permits, fees, insurance, and continued prohibition on certain busier streets.
- Golf carts on streets after sunset MUST have required lighting – head lamps and tail lamps as specified in KSA 8-1801 and 49 C.F.R. § 571.108
- Largely, this is small town rural issue. Larger cities could adopt, but probably not practical as many legitimate issues arise.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration,

Representative Adam Smith