



Kansas Motor Carriers Association

Trucking Solutions Since 1936

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

by the

Kansas Motor Carriers Association

in support of

House Bill No. 2588

before the

House Appropriations Committee

Rep. Troy Waymaster, Chairman

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

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Executive Director

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE:

I am Tom Whitaker, Executive Director of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association. I appear here this morning representing our 860 member companies and the Kansas highway transportation industry in strong support of House Bill No. 2588. The bill creates "Forward," a comprehensive solution to the ever-changing transportation needs of Kansas.

Kansas Trucking employees 71,190 individuals working for 10,880 trucking companies. 96% of these companies operate 19 or fewer trucks. 46% of these companies operate just one truck. We are truly an industry made up of many small businesses. We account for only 13% of the miles traveled on Kansas highways and transport 203,980 tons of freight per day. Kansas needs trucks to move freight and trucks need highways.

The path to introduction of HB 2588 has been a bi-partisan effort at inclusion. First, there was the Joint Legislative Transportation Vision Task Force that toured the State asking Kansans what they wanted from a new transportation solution for Kansas. KMCA would like to thank members of the Legislature and the Kansas Department of Transportation for working closely with our industry to develop meaningful legislation concerning oversize/overweight permits and the use of tolling for future expansion in Kansas. Both issues were recommendations of the JLTVTF.

Next came the appointment of a Long-Range Transport Advisory Committee by Secretary Lorenz to look at the recommendation from the Joint Legislative Task Force and develop a new comprehensive transportation plan. KDOT followed this with Local-Consult meetings across the State and heard from 2,000 plus Kansans just what needed to happen in the next transportation plan.



The comprehensive transportation plan “Forward” is now before you for consideration. We respectfully request the House Appropriation Committee act favorably on HB 2588. We thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today and would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

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