

To: House Judiciary Committee

From: John Goodyear, Staff Attorney

Date: January 22, 2020

RE: Support for HB 2448

I want to thank Chairman Patton and the members of the Committee for affording the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2448.

HB 2448 increases the penalties for a driver of a motor vehicle who willfully fails or refuses to bring such his or her vehicle to a stop, flees, or otherwise attempts to elude a pursuing police vehicle or bicycle while operating a stolen motor vehicle.

The League has heard concerns from our member cities about an increase in the number of stolen vehicles involved in police pursuits. The hope is that by increasing the penalties for this offense, it will provide a needed deterrent.

For these reasons, the League supports the amendments that HB 2448 makes to current law and respectfully ask this Committee to pass the bill to the full House for consideration.