



TO: Representative Steven Johnson, Chairman
And Members of the House Taxation Committee

FROM: Martha Neu Smith
Executive Director

DATE: March 14, 2019

RE: HB 2371 – Oversize and Overweight Permits Fee Increases

Chairman Johnson and members of the House Taxation Committee, my name is Martha Smith and I am the Executive Director for Kansas Manufactured Housing Association (KMHA) and I appreciate the opportunity to provide written comments expressing our opposition to HB 2371 as written.

KMHA is a statewide trade association, which represents all facets of the manufactured and modular housing industry including manufacturers, retail centers, community owners and operators, finance and insurance companies, service and supplier companies and transport companies.

When KMHA members were polled regarding the proposed fee increases for Oversize and Overweight Permits (specifically Annual Permits), it became clear that while KMHA members understood that everything costs more today and that we use Kansas highways and need to continue to pay for our use they also noted that this increase will be included in the price of our homes. Kansas is already facing an affordable housing crisis in both rural and urban areas and while the fee increase in HB 2371 is only \$150 (Annual Permit) when it is coupled with the increases in materials, labor and other related costs it impacts the affordability of housing. The National Association of Homebuilders *2019 Households Priced Out of the Market by a \$1000 Price Increase* shows that for every \$1000 increase in the cost of a home in Kansas, 1,744 Kansas households are priced out of the housing market.

KMHA would note that we are supportive of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association's suggested change to the permit fees that would bring Annual Permits up to \$200; and we are also supportive of the change to KDOT's Curfew Policy allowing oversize - pickup and deliveries during curfew hours but maintaining curfew hours for all oversized through-traffic.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our position on HB 2371.