

To: House Committee on Transportation

From: Deborah Barnes, Staff Attorney, League of Kansas Municipalities

Date: January 23, 2020

RE: Neutral Testimony HB 2420

I want to thank Chairman Proehl and the Committee members for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities to provide neutral testimony on HB 2420.

HB 2420 allows for military surplus vehicles, other than fully tracked vehicles, to be registered and driven on Kansas roads.

While the League is neutral as to whether, in general, military surplus vehicles should be allowed on Kansas roads, we do have some questions about how broadly the bill is currently written. The only type of military surplus vehicles which would be excluded from Kansas roads are fully tracked vehicles. A basic internet search shows that there are a wide range of military vehicles the average citizen can purchase. The vehicles range from a Jeep Staff Car to a 7 Ton Cargo Truck to an armored Humvee.

From a safety perspective, the League is concerned that HB 2420 does not address the question of a vehicle's weight, dimensions, or its capacity to comply with requirements that other vehicles must meet before they can be registered such as light requirements. It is important that the Committee weigh the increased wear and tear these vehicles could have on critical infrastructure if there are no weight or size restrictions. The League asks the Committee's careful consideration of these concerns before it passes this bill to the full House for its consideration.