



January 26, 2021

Kansas House of Representatives  
House Judiciary Committee  
Representative Fred Patton, Chairman

**Support Statement – House Bill 2093**

Dear Chairman Patton and Members of the Committee:

The National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) is a national, not-for-profit organization supported by approximately 1,200 property and casualty insurance companies including many who write business in Kansas. Working with our member companies and law enforcement, we investigate organized criminal conspiracies dealing with insurance fraud and vehicle theft.

Given our nexus to vehicle theft, we would like to express our support for **House Bill 2093** which seeks to increase criminal penalties for fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer when operating a stolen vehicle as well as making fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer evidence of intent to commit theft of a vehicle.

With around 800,000 vehicles stolen each year in the United States, every state in the country is affected -- but not equally. Some states, and communities within, see significantly higher vehicle theft rates than other states. Case in point would be metropolitan Kansas City and Topeka which according to NICB data rank in the Top 25 nationally for amount of thefts by population in 2019.

Vehicle theft is not an isolated crime. Vehicles are often stolen under violent conditions, and increasingly criminal rings are turning to stolen cars to make big money and to commit other crimes. Kansans pay for this criminal activity through higher premiums.

**House Bill 2093** will give law enforcement an added, important tool to ensure those involved in motor vehicle thefts face harsher penalties.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (847) 544-7080.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Lynch", written in a cursive style.

Tim Lynch – Senior Director, Government Affairs – National Insurance Crime Bureau