



**Testimony on House Bill 2306
House Committee on General Government Budget**

**Presented by
Major Mark Bruce
Kansas Highway Patrol**

January 24, 2012

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I am Major Mark Bruce and I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) regarding House Bill 2306.

The provisions of this bill would require all state agencies to provide inspection and condition reports to the Secretary of Administration on vehicles for which replacement is being sought. This information would then be provided to an agency's budget committee during each legislative session.

As was indicated by Mr. Steven Anderson, Director of the Budget, in his Fiscal Note for this bill, the KHP has been exempted by administrative practice from obtaining prior approval for vehicle purchases. We believe that it is logistically in the best interests of both the KHP and the Department of Administration, for this exemption to continue.

As a standard and consistent practice, the KHP retires a patrol vehicle when it has attained between 49,000 and 49,900 miles on the odometer. Consequently, it does not appear that there is value in providing the information mandated in House Bill 2306 to the Department of Administration. None of its tenets affect whether or not a vehicle will be retired and replaced.

The requirement to provide this information to the Department of Administration will have a substantial logistical impact on the KHP's fleet operations. Unlike most other state agencies, we usually purchase 150 – 175 vehicles per year. Consequently, if the Patrol is subjected to the requirements of this bill, we will have to create and provide a significant amount of information to the Department of Administration.

The KHP respectfully requests that current practice, which exempts us from obtaining permission to purchase new vehicles, be incorporated into the provisions of House Bill 2306. This practice has worked well in the past and we believe it work well in the future while allowing for the most efficient use of our resources.

Again, I appreciate your time today and would be happy to stand for questions

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