

To: House Transportation Committee

From: Erik Sartorius, Executive Director

Date: March 15, 2022

RE: Neutral Testimony for SB 161

The League of Kansas Municipalities appreciates the opportunity to offer neutral testimony on Senate Bill 161. In 2020, Amazon brought forward a substantially similar bill. We opposed that legislation at the initial hearing as it removed any ability for communities to consider the impact of personal delivery devices.

Working with the proponents, we agreed to language seen in Section 3 of Senate Bill 161 and moved to a neutral position on the legislation. While not perfect, this legislation does ensure cities' elected officials can consider whether personal delivery devices can work in their city.

During the interim after the 2021 session, we had discussions with multiple proponents of the legislation. We understand the reasoning behind the requested changes by FedEx, and appreciate the willingness by them and Amazon to work collaboratively to address issues. Amendments made in the Senate Committee of the Whole did not change the legislation in ways that are of concern to the League.

The League has worked with other parties on a balloon amendment for this bill, which will be presented when the bill is worked. For us, the key pieces are additions to New Section 3. A hearing process would be added for instances where a city wanted to consider prohibiting personal delivery devices. Additionally, language in this section provides cities confidence that they will be able to ensure the public's health and safety if regulations for these devices are warranted.

On behalf of the cities of Kansas, thank you for the opportunity to appear before the committee regarding Senate Bill 161.