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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**REGARDING HOUSE BILL 2682
RELATING TO CDL CLEARINGHOUSE PARTICIPATION AND IMPLEMENTATION**

March 6, 2024

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

I am Joel Skelley, the Director of Policy for the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). I am here today to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 2682. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on behalf of the agency.

KDOT supports this legislation to authorize the Director of Vehicles (Director), Kansas Department of Revenue (KDOR), to participate in and implement the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse Program (Clearinghouse).

Without this legislation the state of Kansas would become noncompliant with federal law. According to the Code of Federal Regulations, failure to comply will result in a penalty of withholding of up to 4 percent of the State's apportionments for the National Highway Performance Program (NHPP) and Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) for the first noncompliance and up to 8 percent thereafter. This would be a loss of funding, not a transfer, meaning funds will lapse immediately. Federal aid highway funds that are withheld are not available in the future, meaning they will not be refunded to the state. The loss of these federal funds will impact the agency's ability to meet its commitments under IKE program.

KDOT would lose approximately \$19 million in Federal Highway Funds in the first year from those two programs that go to the State Highway Fund. Failure to be in compliance lasting more than one year would result in an increased loss of Federal Highway Funds in succeeding years.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2682 and request the committee support passage of this bill. I am happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.