

**TESTIMONY BEFORE
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

REGARDING HOUSE BILL 2147

RELATING TO REPEALING K.S.A 68-422b, 68-1129, 68-1601, 68-1602, 68-1603, 68-1604, 68-1605, 68-1606, 68-1607, 68-1608, 68-1609, 68-1610, 68-1611, 68-1612 and 68-1613.

March 13, 2013

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) to provide written testimony in support of House Bill 2147. HB 2147 will repeal several outdated statutes.

These statutes were submitted by the agency to the Office of the Repealer in an attempt to clean-up the state statutes that are outdated or no longer necessary. The agency believes these statutes are no longer needed.

K.S.A. 68-422b was passed in 1975 and requires KDOT to manufacture all future traffic or marker signs containing mileage to also include the metric measurements as well. The statute is to be triggered if the United States Transportation Department institutes a demonstration project to test the feasibility of switching to the metric system. No metric change has been instituted by the United States Transportation Department since 1975 so the agency feels that the purpose of this statute has been superseded making it no longer useful or necessary.

K.S.A 68-1129 was originally passed in 1917 and amended in 1919. It provides requirements for moving heavy machinery and vehicles over certain types of bridges. Today, bridges and culverts are posted with appropriate weights and it is illegal to travel across a posted bridge at a greater weight than what is posted. Loads over 150,000 pounds receive a bridge permit with specified conditions for traversing bridges. The purpose of this statute has been superseded making it no longer necessary.

K.S.A 68-1601 – K.S.A 68-1609 were originally passed in 1933 with technical amendments made in 1975.¹ The statutes specify conditions for the construction of a toll bridge by a private company across the Missouri River between Kansas City, Kansas and Platte County, Missouri. No toll bridge exists today and the statutes are no longer necessary.

¹ The 1975 amendments changed references to the Kansas State Highway Commission to the Kansas Secretary of Transportation.

K.S.A. 68-1610 – K.S.A. 68-1613 were originally passed in 1972, with technical amendments in 75, and another amendment in 1977.² The statutes authorize the construction of a bridge on US-36 over the Missouri River near Elwood, Kansas. The bridge was built in 1983 (Pony Express Bridge) fulfilling the purpose of this statute.

Thank you for allowing the agency the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2147.

² The 1975 amendments changed references to the Kansas State Highway Commission to the Kansas Secretary of Transportation. The 1977 amendment changed the charge to Kansas from one-half the cost of the bridge to the actual cost of the bridge located in Kansas.