

STATE OF KANSAS
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DISTRICT 74

Chairman Petersen and Members of the Transportation Committee:

Anyone who rides a motorcycle knows that being seen by other motorists is always a concern. This bill, HB 2318, addresses that concern by putting into State law that having a modulating headlight as well as side lights on a motorcycle helps with the visibility issue. Modulating light systems are currently allowed by Federal law.

Many vehicles today have daytime running lights which make it difficult for a motorcycle to be noticed in the crowd. A modulator helps with that problem. Modulators do not make the headlight flash but vary the voltage causing the headlight to dim and brighten. Modulation systems typically cycle four times per second.

Lighting on the side of the bike is often used to dress it up a little but the side lights also help with the visibility issue, particularly at night. Bikes often do not have side lights, and when they do they are on the smallish side. So, side lights serve two purposes, but safety is the primary purpose and concern.

Passage of this law should help prevent those news stories about someone turning in front of a motorcycle because they did not see them. I urge passage of HB 2318 as an important safety tool motorcyclists can use to get noticed!