



To: House Taxation Committee
From: Adam Stodola, P.E., FNSPE
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers
Date: March 13, 2019
Re: Support of HB 2368

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer remarks regarding House Bill 2368.

I am Adam Stodola, a Licensed Professional Engineer in Wichita and Past President of the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers.

The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) represents the Licensed Professional Engineers across the state. For over 100 years, KSPE has worked to promote public safety by delivering professional engineering services, encouraging licensure, and advocating legislation and public policy for the betterment of human welfare and the industry.

KSPE is excited to weigh in on legislation relating to the next comprehensive transportation plan. House Bill 2368 would provide an exception for the property tax lid for transportation projects. This bill is part of a fourteen-bill group introduced in the Senate and House relating to the planning and funding of the next comprehensive transportation program. Although we understand the state's fiscal environment over the last several years, infrastructure safety is essential for our state's development. KSPE has already testified in support of several of the other bills as possible funding sources for the next comprehensive transportation program.

KSPE does not relish the idea of increasing property taxes. However, this bill could help provide a stable funding source for the new ten-year plan. The 21 remaining projects for T-WORKS illustrates the need for bills such as this. We also favor the local government's ability to determine its transportation needs and be a proactive partner with the State in delivering projects that meet those needs.

Infrastructure safety is paramount to our society's mission and HB 2368 can help make this possible.

We encourage the support of HB 2368.

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to submit our thoughts.

Respectfully,
Adam Stodola, P.E., FNSPE