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Chairman Mike Peterson

Transportation Committee

C/O Florence.Detter@senate.ks.gov

Re: Testimony Sen. Sub. HB2166/AKA Distinguished License Plate/Proponent

Thank you, Chairman Mike Peterson and Committee for allowing me to provide testimony in support of Sen. Sub. HB 2166.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (AKA) is the first sorority established by African American college women. Founded on January 15, 1908 on the campus of Howard University in Washington D.C,, the sorority has expanded to more than 300,000 members with over 1,000 chapters across the world. There are nine chapters serving across the State of Kansas, four undergraduate and five graduate.

The Beta Kappa Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, located in Wichita, has served the community since April 1, 1935. Our chapter is excited at the opportunity of having an AKA Distinctive License Plate in Kansas. We look forward to collectively purchasing the tag, displaying it on our vehicles, and proudly showing Kansas our love for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Our mission: To be of Service to All Mankind has led to programs of excellency that assist the communities we serve. We have provided service in areas such as college access, support of Historically Black Colleges, women's health, the arts, global impact and much more. For 37 years our chapter has hosted the Fashionetta Scholarship Gala for female high school seniors to help them prepare for life after high school. We have impacted the lives of hundreds of young girls with this program through ACT training, confidence building, college tours, financial literacy, exploring expressions of art, scholarship attainment and more. During 2020/2021 we have been helping to educate and provide resources in the community pertaining to the COVID Virus. We wrote a grant which provided masks, signs and groceries to tose in need.

Over 25 states across the nation have established an AKA license plate, and we would like to join the nationwide ranks. As an active 50-year member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, incorporated, and on behalf of my sisters, we respectfully request the Committee pass Sen. Sub. HB 2166 out of the Senate Transportation Committee favorably.

Sincerely,

Lavonta Williams