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January 22, 2024

The Honorable Shannon Francis
Chair
House Transportation Committee
300 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairman Francis and Members of the House Transportation Committee:

On behalf of the Heart of America Chapter of the American Traffic Safety Services Association (HOA-ATSSA), I write in support of HB2499. As you know, HB2499 would restrict the use of a mobile telephone while operating a vehicle in a school or construction zone or by individuals less than 18 years of age.

HOA-ATSSA proudly represents the manufacturers, distributors, and installers of roadway safety infrastructure products, services, and devices in Kansas and Missouri. Our Chapter membership is made up of the men and women who perform this essential infrastructure work to ensure the safety of drivers.

Unfortunately, workers in roadway construction zones work under extremely vulnerable conditions, and so we are especially grateful for the provision in HB2499 that restricts mobile telephone usage there. It is our hope that we eventually reach our goal of zero injuries and fatalities in roadway work zones. And this legislation is in line with our mission to move Toward Zero Deaths on our nation's roadways.

Thank you for considering such important legislation and we urge the Legislature to approve it in an expeditious manner. We would also welcome the opportunity to speak with you further on why the HOA-ATSSA Chapter supports a measure of this nature, as well as on our other efforts to improve roadway safety. Please feel free to contact me at jnettesheim@gevekomarkings.com should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Jay Nettesheim
HOA-ATSSA Chapter President