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**Testimony presented to the  
House Transportation Committee  
Senate Bill 142  
March 7, 2024**

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Chairman Francis and members of the House Transportation Committee, Safe Kids Kansas is pleased to provide testimony in support of SB 142. Safe Kids Kansas is a nonprofit coalition of partnering agencies, organizations and businesses, whose mission is to prevent unintentional injuries and injury-related death to Kansas children.

**Summary of Issue and Position:**

As injury prevention specialists and safety professionals, we advocate for safety on our Kansas roadways. While most often that is promoting seat belt and car seat use while the vehicle is in motion, there remains additional hazards such as when that vehicle is stopped or disabled along our highways. SB 142 proposes to enhance the current state "Move Over" law that requires motorists to move over one lane to provide a safe distance when they encounter an emergency, road maintenance or utility vehicle along the road. This proposed enhancement would include all vehicles displaying hazard warning signals, road flares or caution signals, including traffic cones, caution signs or reflective triangles. This enhancement would afford the same extra level of safety protection for all people along the roadside, including families. \*Please note KDOT crash data from 2018-2022 below.

Currently 21 states, including Colorado, Oklahoma and Iowa have this law in practice. Other neighboring states including Nebraska and Missouri are considering it.

Safe Kids Kansas supports SB 142 and reasonable penalties for drivers who either fail to move over when able and/or do not practice due caution, to help keep all individuals safe on our Kansas highways.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. We believe all children deserve the chance to grow up free from preventable injuries.

\*Kansas crash statistics show that from 2018-2022...

- 688 empty vehicles were struck while on the side of road. These crashes resulted in 11 fatalities, 19 suspected serious injuries, 198 possible or minor injuries and 513 property damage only crashes.
- Additionally, 64 crashes occurred with someone in a vehicle while on the side of road during this same time period. These crashes resulted in 2 fatalities, 1 suspected serious injury, 49 possible or minor injuries and 31 property damage only crashes.

**Attachments:** Safe Kids Kansas Member Organizations



[safekidskansas.org](http://safekidskansas.org)



## Safe Kids Kansas Member Organizations

- AAA Kansas
- American Academy of Pediatrics – Kansas Chapter
- Brain Injury Association of Kansas
- Charlie’s House
- Children’s Mercy Hospital
- Child Care Aware of Kansas
- Dillon’s Stores
- Eye Care Council
- Fire Education Association of Kansas (FEAK)
- Huggable Images
- Kansas Academy of Family Physicians
- Kansas Alliance of YMCAs
- Kansas Association for Justice
- Kansas Association of Counties
- Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD)
- Kansas Association of Osteopathic Medicine
- Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB)
- Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services
- Kansas Children’s Cabinet & Trust Fund
- Kansas Chiropractic Association
- Kansas Cooperative Extension 4-H
- Kansas Dental Association
- Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF)
- Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE):
  - Bureau of Health Promotion
  - Bureau of Family Health
  - Childhood Lead Poison Prevention Program
  - Trauma Program
  - EMS for Children (EMSC)
- Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL)
- Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT)
- Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP)
- Kansas Emergency Nurses Association (KENA)
- Kansas Healthy Start Home Visitor Services
- Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP)
- Kansas Hospital Association (KHA)
- Kansas Insurance Department
- Kansas Medical Society (KMS)
- Kansas Motor Carriers Association (KMCA)
- Kansas National Education Association (KNEA)
- Kansas Operation Lifesaver
- Kansas Parent Teachers Association (Kansas PTA)
- Kansas Poison Center
- Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA)
- Kansas School Nurses Organization (KSNO)
- Kansas State Association of Fire Chiefs
- Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE)
- Kansas State Child Death Review Board
- Kansas State Firefighters Association
- Kansas State Nurses Association
- Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office (KTSRO)
- KIDS Network
- Kids and Car Safety (formerly KidsAndCars.org)
- University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC):
  - Burn Center
  - Emergency Services
  - Trauma Services
- National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) Regional Office
- Office of the Governor – Constituent Services
- Office of the State Fire Marshal
- Safety & Health Council of Western MO & KS
- Salina Educational Automotive Museum of America (dba The Garage)
- State Capitol Area Fire Fighters Association
- State Farm Insurance Companies
- Stormont-Vail Health
- United School Administrators of Kansas
- Ascension Via Christi
  - St. Francis Burn Center
  - Trauma Center
- Wesley Medical Center
- YMCA of Topeka

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