



TESTIMONY

TO: SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
FROM: SCOTT HEIDNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF
KANSAS (ACEC KS)
RE: SB 90
DATE: FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Chairman Petersen, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 90. I submit this on behalf of ACEC KS, the trade association representing private consulting engineering companies in Kansas.

ACEC Kansas has no opposition to the intent of SB 90, which is why we are submitting testimony as a neutral party. We do, however, have serious reservations about one section.

Section (d)(4) on page 28, lines 20-22, would eliminate the \$4 vehicle modernization surcharge which currently produces just under \$13 million annually. That money goes to the state highway fund under current law. We object to the inclusion of this section of the bill.

After countless years of dollars being swept from the state highway fund into the general fund, the current fiscal year has no such sweeps or extraordinary transfers. The state highway fund is finally being supported at its full and intended level. These dollars produce tremendous value to the communities and businesses of Kansas. Cutting this stream of revenue will not only diminish the resources available for state infrastructure, it will set a bad precedent back towards an acceptance of failing to fully fund the state highway fund.

This is a bad change under any circumstances, but it is particularly difficult to accept when state coffers have the resources needed to continue fully funding the state highway fund. For this reason, we urge you to consider removing the above-mentioned section before moving forward with consideration of SB 90.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.