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**Testimony presented to the
Senate Committee on Transportation
Senate Bill 476
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Chairman Petersen and members of the Senate Committee on Transportation, Safe Kids Kansas is pleased to provide testimony in support of SB 476, which creates a traffic infraction and defines penalties for individuals operating a motor vehicle at speeds of 100mph or more. 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:

Kansas families travel on our roadways every day to work, school, activities, recreation, and to spend time with family and friends. But sometimes those everyday trips can end in tragedy. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for Kansas children ages 1-19. In addition to lives lost on Kansas roads, there are additional serious injuries sustained that can be costly in both medical care and lost work time for families. These injuries may even impact long-term quality of life.

Speed is a contributing factor to increased risk of being involved in a crash. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) almost one-third of traffic fatalities are speed-related crashes. Nationally, in 2021, 12,330 people were killed in speeding-related crashes. And speeding drivers don't just put themselves at risk. They expose other drivers and their occupants, pedestrians, and bicyclists to increased risk of injury and death. Nationwide in 2021, 599 pedestrian and 84 bicyclists were killed in speeding-related crashes. Speed also plays a significant factor in both the seriousness of injuries and the survivability of crash.

Data from the Kansas Highway Patrol shows that between 2020 and 2023 there were 1,727 instances when a vehicle was cited at speeds of 100 miles per hour or more where a child ages birth to 19 was in the vehicle as either a passenger or driver. Just this past weekend, for example, a vehicle was stopped by law enforcement for speeding at 103mph with an infant in the vehicle. Just a few miles away, another vehicle was stopped for speeding at 101mph with an unrestrained child sitting in a booster seat with no seat belt. We believe the law and subsequent penalties should reflect the seriousness of the danger excessive speeding poses to public safety.

In conclusion, Safe Kids Kansas supports SB 476 as a deterrent to excessive speeding on our roadways to keep Kansans of all ages safe. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Attachments: Safe Kids Kansas Member Organizations



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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