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Date: February 5, 2025

Re: HB 2121- Written Proponent

To: House Committee on Transportation, Chairman Francis

From: Claudia Hissong, Kansas Farm Bureau

Chairman Francis and members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on HB 2121. My name is Claudia Hissong, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) members. KFB is the state's largest general farm organization representing more than 30,000 farm and ranch families through our 105 county Farm Bureau Associations.

With most of our members living in rural communities and having to travel long distances to access basic necessities they understand the importance of road maintenance and the longevity of funds to support infrastructure across the state. Our members support consumer choice for vehicles and even benefit from newer, fuel-efficient vehicles that use biofuels and higher blends of alternative fuels. However, our policy supports revenue collection efforts on highway users who do not currently contribute, or contribute disproportionately, to highway funds due to increased mileage standards, electric vehicles or alternative fuels. Increasing the registration fees on hybrid and electric vehicles is one way to recoup money lost through adoption of all electric or more fuel-efficient vehicles. We encourage the legislature to evaluate all options available to ensure drivers utilizing Kansas roads are assisting to replenish funds to maintain roads in Kansas.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2121 and appreciate your time evaluating this tough policy decision.