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To: House Transportation Committee
From: Deanna Sheppard, Vehicle Services Senior Manager
Date: February 13, 2025
RE: HB 2289

Thank you, Chairman, and Committee members, for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony for HB 2289.

This bill was requested by the Division of Vehicles (DOV), and we consider this bill a cleanup for personalized license plates and decals for all license plates. Since DOV began digitally printing license plates, several processes outlined in K.S.A. 8-132 are no longer relevant and this bill removes those processes. Additionally, the Division no longer issues two personalized license plates, so this bill amends statute to reflect DOV policy.

Section 2(e) and section 3(c) of the bill removes the requirement that registration decals carry a county designation of the county that issued the registration. This does not remove the requirement that license plates include a county designation. It only removes the requirement that the county designation be placed on the colored registration decal. The reason for this change is that county designations are now digitally printed on the license plate. This change also updates the statute to reflect current best practices that the registration decal is printed on demand at the time the registration is issued.

The reason DOV no longer issues two personalized license plates is for two reasons. First, many vehicle owners do not have front plate brackets and Kansas does not require a front license plate. Second, issuing two personalized plates created issues for law enforcement where the second personalized plate was being used on a second vehicle illegally.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you and the committee.