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**Testimony presented to the  
Senate Committee on Transportation  
Senate Bill 113  
February 5, 2025**

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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 113, which adds to its current definition that reckless driving also occurs when a driver operates a vehicle at a speed of 100 MPH or more, or operates a vehicle at a speed that is 35 MPH or more over the posted speed limit. 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 2022, 12,151 people were killed and an estimated 300,595 people were injured 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. Speed also plays a significant factor in both the seriousness of injuries and the survivability of crash.

Data from the Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) shows that in 2024:

- The agency issued 44 citations that included violations of both speeding at 100 or more MPH **and** violations of child passenger safety seat law (13 and under children).
- KHP issued 3 citations that included violations of both speeding at 100 or more MPH **and** violations of a 14–17 year-old failing to wear their seatbelt.
- The highest speed differential for a KHP traffic stop in 2024 that included a speeding citation and a violation of child passenger safety seat law was 45 MPH over the speed limit (95 MPH in a 50 MPH zone).

In 2024, a vehicle was stopped by law enforcement for speeding at 103 MPH with an infant in the vehicle. Just a few miles away, another vehicle was stopped for speeding at 101 MPH 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 113 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



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