



**Unified Government of
Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas**

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WRITTEN TESTIMONY

House Bill 2029

Mayor Tyrone Garner

On behalf of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas

Senate Committee on Transportation

February 27, 2025

Good Afternoon Chairman Peterson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Tyrone Garner and I am Mayor of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas. The UG is submitting testimony today as a proponent of House Bill 2029. We appreciate your committee having a hearing on this memorialization and giving it your consideration.

Marvin Robinson's impact on our community is multifaced. A steadfast advocate for African American rights and equity, he worked to address disparities in education, housing, and economic opportunities, both in his local community and as a state legislator. His advocacy for racial justice and fairness continues to inspire future generations of leaders.

Marvin was also a profoundly influential figure in the research and preservation of the Quindaro Ruins. For decades, Marvin worked to protect the historical significance of this site, which was a thriving free Black settlement in the mid-1800s and a critical hub for the Underground Railroad. He was instrumental in raising awareness of Quindaro's significance, ensuring that this vital part of American history would not be lost. In culmination of his decades-long advocacy for Quindaro, he secured funding for the site in 2023 during his tenure as Representative.

Naming a portion of K-5 highway in honor of Marvin S. Robinson, II, would be a fitting tribute to his contributions to our community and to the history of Quindaro and would serve as a reminder of his enduring dedication to preserving history, advancing civil rights, and improving the lives of all Kansans.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.