

## Proponent Testimony on HB2121 Offered by John Federico on Behalf of General Motors Senate Transportation Committee March 11, 2025

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Transportation Committee. My name is John Federico, of the Federico // Duerst Consulting Group, testifying on behalf of General Motors. We stand in support of HB 2121, as amended in the House Committee.

As a reminder, the General Motors Fairfax Assembly Plant has been producing World Class quality vehicles in Kansas since 1945. Fairfax Assembly was the first industrial facility to operate as a dual purpose manufacturer producing both automobiles and jet fighters in the same building.

The present facility, constructed in 1985, has received numerous awards, including North American Car of the Year for the Chevrolet Malibu, as well as the Buick LaCrosse earning a top safety rating by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

General Motors is proud of their long history in Kansas, where they employee more than 2000 workers, and have invested over \$1.5B into their Kansas facility over the last decade or so. We were particularly excited at the most recent news that GM chose their Kansas facility to produce the next-generation Chevrolet Bolt EV. In support of that effort, GM has initiated a \$390+-M investment to retool their assembly line at the Fairfax facility.

It is with that commitment in mind, that General Motors takes a keen interest in any legislation that might serve as a barrier to the consumer who prefers to purchase an electric vehicle. Having said that, GM does believe that every driver should pay their fair share, and that there should be a goal of parity among rates set for the myriad of drivers on Kansas roads.

We are appreciative of the consideration afforded GM in the amendment offered in the House Transportation Committee, reducing the fee on all-electric vehicle from \$175 to \$165 in HB2121.

We respectfully ask that you preserve that language should you choose to advance HB2121, and I thank you for the opportunity to testify Chairman Petersen