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**Legislative Testimony**  
by the  
**Kansas Motor Carriers Association**  
before the  
**House Transportation Committee**  
**Representative Richard Proehl, Chairman**  
**Thursday, February 15, 2018**

**MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:**

Good afternoon. I am Tom Whitaker, Executive Director of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association. We appear before you today representing our 900 member-firms and the highway transportation industry in support of HB 2605. The bill begins the process of allowing "platooning" on four-lane divided highways in Kansas.

"Platoon" means two or more individual motor vehicles traveling in a unified manner at electronically coordinate speeds and following distances that are closer than defined under K.S.A 8-1523(c). KMCA did show a video describing platooning during our testimony on autonomous vehicles.

Mr. Chairman, we would request two amendments to HB 2605. The first amendment would strike the words "or more" from line 6 of the bill. The second amendment would strike the words, "a four-lane divided highway" on line 35 and adding "the national interstate highway system under an agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation to demonstrate platooning." These two amendments will ascertain that a platoon is limited to two vehicles and it can only be operated on the interstate highway system with approval from the Kansas Department of Transportation.

With these two amendments we ask for your favorable passage of HB 2605 as amended. We thank you for the opportunity to appear before you this afternoon and would be pleased to respond to any questions you may have.

