

To: Senate Transportation Committee

From: Deborah Barnes, Staff Attorney

Date: March 24, 2021

RE: HB 2295 - proponent

Thank you to Chairman Petersen and the Committee members for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2295.

This bill extends exemptions for commercial vehicles that would usually require a commercial driver's license (CDL) to operate to include motor grader vehicles operated by employees of municipalities. HB 2295 would allow city and county employees to operate motor grader vehicles, such as snowplows, without a CDL license to provide city and county services. This bill gives cities more flexibility to manage resources, both in dealing with routine road maintenance and emergency situations such as dealing with a snowstorm. Many smaller communities across Kansas have limited staffs and those employees serve in multiple roles. HB 2295 allows municipalities to deploy employees who can operate motor grader vehicles but may not yet have a CDL license.

The League of Kansas Municipalities is supportive of HB 2295 and respectfully asks the committee to recommend the bill favorably to the full Senate for its consideration.