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To: House Judiciary Committee
From: Zach V. Thomas
Subject: HB2289 – testimony in favor

Chairman Barker and Members of the Committee:

I am writing today to support HB2289. As a lifelong Kansan, I have dreamt of one day having the very ability to effectuate change that you all possess. As a first step, I entered the legal profession as a stepping-stone to better understand the laws that govern people within this great state.

While working in this profession, I have encountered issues that seemed unfair or unjust. Fortunately, these issues seem to always get addressed and corrected by active members of the Bar and ultimately, by people like you.

We are currently at a crossroads as it pertains to these DUI stops. I have witnessed cases where courts have ultimately ruled that the stop was unconstitutional; however, the defendant still lost their driving privileges due to the administrative hearing. I have gone into administrative hearings without having had the opportunity to review police reports as they were not turned over in a timely manner. This has happened a number of times in Douglas, Wyandotte and Johnson County for me.

Based upon these experiences, along with similar war stories from other attorneys, I am in full support of HB2289. I ask that you too support this bill so that justice will truly apply to all in these situations.

I welcome any additional questions regarding my support. I look forward to learning about the success of this bill and I thank you for your time.

Very truly yours,

Zach V. Thomas