

TESTIMONY BEFORE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

REGARDING HOUSE BILL 2529
RELATED TO INCREASING REGISTRATION FEES ON ELECTRIC AND HYBRID VEHICLES

February 17, 2016

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is providing written testimony in support of House Bill 2529 regarding registration fees for vehicles. The amended bill includes language to capture license fees for hybrid and electric vehicles.

The motor fuels tax is one of transportation's primary funding mechanisms. The motor fuels tax is a per-gallon excise tax levied on gasoline, diesel, and other special fuels. As vehicles become more efficient and hybrid and electric vehicles are added to the fleet, transportation revenue through the motor fuels tax is declining. The motor fuels tax is, in essence, a user fee for those who benefit from traveling on our road system. Providing a road system that serves electric and hybrid vehicles comes at the same cost as providing one that serves conventional vehicles.

HB 2529, as amended, charges an annual license fee for hybrid and electric vehicles. This bill provides a new funding mechanism to capture a user fee for electric and hybrid vehicles using our transportation network.

KDOT supports capturing a user fee for all those who benefit from traveling on our road system. We support HB 2529 as written.