

**State of Kansas
House of Representatives**

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Gail A. Finney
Representatives, 84th District

Support Testimony for HB 2013

March 5, 2015

Chairman Mike Peterson and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee,

On behalf of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, I am thankful for the opportunity to introduce HB 2013 and testify in support of this "Omega Psi Phi" distinctive license plate bill.

Omega Psi Phi is a national and international fraternal organization with an overall mission to improve the status of the communities in which they exist through conducting social action programs which enhance the culture, well-being and quality of life of their communities. Members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity participate in numerous community service programs ranging from Habitat for Humanity projects; health initiative programs; to providing grant scholarships for graduating high school students, etc.

Statewide members of this organization are eager to support and purchase this distinctive license plate annually. In Kansas, there are six alumni chapters and five undergraduate chapters of Omega Psi Phi with over 1500 members. Alumni chapters have been operating in Kansas as early as 1910.

The revenue generated from the sale of these plates will be used to fund scholarships for graduating high school students in Kansas and allow the fraternity to expand their youth membership programs. Also, the organization's leadership has provided testimony that there will be no problem guaranteeing the minimum quantity of 500 for these license plates.

Currently there are at least nine other states that have personalized Omega Psi Phi distinctive license plates. They include Missouri, Texas, Oklahoma, Illinois, Mississippi, Alabama, Virginia, California, and The District of Columbia. It is our hope that Kansas will join in with these other states and allow members of this well-established organization to purchase this plate and show their strong pride in their organization, support of its programs and their pride as citizens of the great state of Kansas.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support testimony on behalf of HB2013.

Respectfully Submitted

Rep. Gail A. Finney