

To: House Transportation Committee
From: Wendi Stark, Legislative Liaison
Date: February 27, 2025
RE: SB 8 Proponent – Written Testimony

We want to thank Chairman Francis and the Committee members for giving the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to present testimony in support of SB 8.

SB 8 concerns traffic regulations specifically related to the duty of drivers approaching stationary vehicles which are displaying vehicular hazard warning signal lamps on Kansas highways. In addition, this bill defines penalties for violating the ordinance.

We understand that the main concern is to give better protection to stranded motorists; however, we also appreciate the need for protection to ensure the safety of emergency personnel who may be assisting stationary vehicles.

This bill indicates that the ordinance will be classified as a traffic infraction by cities who adopt ordinances prohibiting the same offense. The League believes this bill supports our members' Constitutional Home Rule powers and their ability to address issues in a way that is responsive to their residents. The League supports allowing cities to adopt ordinances that best meet the safety of their residents.

The League has published the *Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities* since 1960, which in large part parallels the state traffic act. It is designed to provide a comprehensive traffic code for Kansas cities and includes all statutory traffic ordinances.

We appreciate the efforts of the House Transportation Committee and Legislature to support the safety of stranded motorists. The League of Kansas Municipalities supports SB 8 and asks this Committee to recommend it favorably for passage.