

March 2, 2025

Chair Kellie Warren and Members of the Committee
Committee on Judiciary
Kansas Senate

RE: H.B. 2347 – Vehicle Theft – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Warren and Members of the Committee:

The National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) is a national, century-old, not-for-profit organization supported by approximately 1,200 property and casualty insurance companies, including many who write business in Kansas. Working hand-in-hand with our member companies and Kansas law enforcement, we help to detect, prevent, and deter insurance crimes. While NICB provides value to our member companies, we also serve a significant public benefit by helping to stem the estimated billions of dollars in economic harm that insurance crime causes to individual policyholders across the country every year.

Law enforcement agencies and communities across the United States continue to be plagued by record levels of vehicle crime as monthly theft totals nationwide consistently exceeded 70,000 in 2024. According to an analysis conducted by NICB, 7,649 vehicles were stolen in Kansas in 2024.

Beyond the loss to an owner and the resulting financial impacts – including in the form of higher insurance premiums for Kansas consumers – vehicle thefts often have serious second-order effects on society. For example, vehicles are frequently stolen under violent conditions resulting in physical harm to car owners and other victims. Additionally, organized criminal rings are increasingly stealing cars as an alternative illicit revenue stream, as well as to commit other violent crimes.

House Bill 2347 strengthens prosecutors' ability to charge and successfully prosecute individuals for vehicle theft. It will ensure that those who are culpable and found in a stolen vehicle cannot claim ignorance of the vehicle's theft and are brought to justice.

Accordingly, we respectfully request your support for H.B. 2347.

We thank you for considering our views. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at csepich@nicb.org or (847) 772-7667.

Sincerely,

Craig Sepich

Craig Sepich
Director
Office of Strategy, Policy, & Government Affairs
National Insurance Crime Bureau