



QUARRIES
CONSTRUCTION
ASPHALT
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Thursday, February 14, 2013

Hearing on HB 2136

House Taxation Committee

Testimony in Opposition

Charlie Sedlock

Chairman Carlson and Committee Members:

My name is Charlie Sedlock, Division Manager of Hamm, Inc. of Perry, KS. I would like to express our strong opposition to HB 2136 as it relates to funding for transportation in our state.

Hamm, Inc., one of the largest employers in our area, has been constructing high-quality roads for KDOT for decades. In the process, we have grown from a small-town company in Perry to a regional company with over 250 Kansas employees. We are strong supporters of TWORKS and believe it is a terrific time for the state to be dealing with infrastructure issues.

HB 2136 will have severely negative impacts on Hamm in the form of reduced projects and employee layoffs. Right now, construction prices are low and the state is getting an outstanding value for each dollar spent on highway projects, and thus, is not the time to divert funding. In addition, with the economy still fragile keeping folks working should be a high priority.

Passage of HB 2136 would divert over \$170M annually out of the TWORKS program and would essentially end the program. Kansas citizens were promised TWORKS in 2010. Those who want to end TWORKS should introduce a bill to stop the sales tax. If they believe more sales tax is needed for all state programs, then introduce legislation and ask the public to support it. Diverting dedicated money away from the original intent of the law only makes the public cynical about the legislative process.

The TWORKS program is a job producer and these are high-paying private sector jobs. The legislation has been passed for TWORKS, KDOT and local communities have worked hard work to identify the projects for the dollars available, and the public has been promised by Governor Brownback, Secretary King and many Legislators to fulfill it. PLEASE do not stand in the way of this important program.