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February 11, 2013

Kansas House of Representatives
Committee on Transportation
Honorable Representative Richard Proehl, Chair
Kansas State Capitol
300 SW 10th Street
Topeka, KS 66612

RE: HB 2176 concerning the Eisenhower Foundation License Plate

Honorable Representative Proehl:

On behalf of the City of Abilene, Kansas, I wish to submit testimony in support of HB 2176 concerning the Eisenhower Foundation license plate. As you may know, Abilene is home to the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum and Boyhood Home. This treasured facility commemorates and preserves the legacy of a great Kansan who contributed to the well-being and security of the world during a tumultuous period in history.

Eisenhower served as a Five-Star General of the United States Army during World War II and continued his service to country as President of the United States. During his tenure as president, Eisenhower had many accomplishments that helped strengthen America. The Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956 began the process of constructing the Interstate Highway System. The Civil Rights Bill of 1957 made progress in racial equality. Eisenhower was also responsible for ending the Korean War. Amid the federal budgetary situation we face as a nation today, Eisenhower serves as an example of fiscal constraint as he balanced the federal budget three times during his administration.

The Eisenhower Foundation license plate will provide a source of revenue to the Eisenhower Foundation that will be used to promote President Eisenhower's legacy. As a federal institution, the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum and Boyhood Home cannot allocate funding to marketing this important piece of our nation's history. As one of the State of Kansas' top tourist destinations, it is imperative that steps be taken to ensure that more people have the opportunity to learn about Eisenhower's story.

The sale of Eisenhower Foundation license plates, as provided by HB 2176, will provide revenue that will be used to share this story with the State of Kansas, the nation, and the world. Over 80,000 people annually visit Abilene to learn about President Eisenhower. With this initiative, the Eisenhower story will be shared with countless other people.

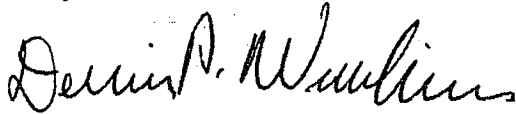
House Transportation
Date: 2-12-13
Attachment # 2



Home of the Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum and Boyhood Home

On behalf of the City of Abilene, Kansas, I encourage the House Committee on Transportation to support the passage of HB 2176 to create an Eisenhower Foundation license plate. Eisenhower's legacy is one that, as Kansans, we are responsible for sharing with the world.

Sincerely,



Dennis P. Weishaar
Mayor

CC: Honorable Representative John Barker, District 70
Karl Weissenbach, Eisenhower Presidential Library, Museum and Boyhood Home
Mack Teasley, Eisenhower Foundation
City Commission

