

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB 2044**

AN ACT CONCERNING MOTOR VEHICLES; RELATING TO AUTOCYCLES.

**Whitney Damron
Whitney B. Damron, P.A.
On behalf of
Polaris Industries**

Good afternoon Chairman Proehl and Members of the House Transportation Committee. I appear before you today on behalf of Polaris Industries in support of HB 2044 creating a class of vehicle called an "autocycle" and respectfully ask for an amendment to include a product manufactured by Polaris Industries called the Slingshot.

The Polaris Slingshot has similar characteristics to an autocycle and dissimilarities to a traditional motorcycle, which has led to Polaris seeking amendments to state laws across the country where existing statutes did not include this new product line. A picture of a Polaris Slingshot is attached to my testimony.

As companies like Polaris have created innovative products to satisfy the needs and enthusiasm of their customers, products like a Slingshot are not always anticipated in state motor vehicle laws, whether for an automobile, motorcycle or in this instance, a new category called an autocycle.

Prior to bringing this amendment to the Committee, I have held discussions and traded e-mails with the Kansas Department of Revenue Division of Vehicles and the Kansas Highway Patrol. We also visited with the sponsor of this legislation. All parties have expressed support or no objection to our amendment.

Our proposal to the Committee is to simply delete the requirement for an autocycle to be "enclosed" as found on page one of the bill on lines 7 and 19. A balloon amendment is attached to my testimony. With that change, the Polaris Slingshot and other similarly-configured vehicles can be titled as an autocycle as provided for under HB 2044.

On behalf of Polaris Industries, I thank you for your consideration of our request to amend HB 2044 and would be pleased to stand for questions.

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www.polaris.com

By way of information, Polaris Industries, Inc., is headquartered just outside of Minneapolis, Minnesota in Medina. The company has manufacturing plants in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and South Dakota. Polaris Industries designs, manufactures and markets innovative, high-quality, high-performance motorized products for recreation, utility and agriculture use. Products manufactured by Polaris Industries include ATV and off-road vehicles, snowmobiles, motorcycles and the Polaris Slingshot.

HOUSE BILL No. 2044

By Committee on Transportation

1-16

1 AN ACT concerning motor vehicles; relating to autocycles; definitions;
2 requirements; amending K.S.A. 8-1438 and 8-1594 and K.S.A. 2014
3 Supp. 8-126, 8-234b, 8-1486 and 8-1598 and repealing the existing
4 sections.

5
6 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

7 New Section 1. "Autocycle" means a three-wheel ~~enclosed~~ ———
8 motorcycle that has a steering wheel and seating that does not require the
9 operator to straddle or sit astride it.

10 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2014 Supp. 8-126 is hereby amended to read as
11 follows: 8-126. The following words and phrases when used in this act
12 shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them herein:

13 (a) "All-terrain vehicle" means any motorized nonhighway vehicle 50
14 inches or less in width, having a dry weight of 1,500 pounds or less,
15 traveling on three or more nonhighway tires, having a seat designed to be
16 straddled by the operator. As used in this subsection, nonhighway tire
17 means any pneumatic tire six inches or more in width, designed for use on
18 wheels with rim diameter of 14 inches or less.

19 (b) "Autocycle" means a three-wheel ~~enclosed~~ motorcycle that has a ———
20 steering wheel and seating that does not require the operator to straddle
21 or sit astride it.

22 ~~(b)~~ (c) "Commission" or "state highway commission" means the
23 director of vehicles of the department of revenue.

24 ~~(c)~~ (d) "Contractor" means a person, partnership, corporation, local
25 government, county government, county treasurer or other state agency
26 that has contracted with the department to provide services associated with
27 vehicle functions.

28 ~~(d)~~ (e) "Department" or "motor vehicle department" or "vehicle
29 department" means the division of vehicles of the department of revenue,
30 acting directly or through its duly authorized officers and agents. When
31 acting on behalf of the department of revenue pursuant to this act, a county
32 treasurer shall be deemed to be an agent of the state of Kansas.

33 ~~(e)~~ (f) "Division" means the division of vehicles of the department of
34 revenue.

35 ~~(f)~~ (g) "Electric personal assistive mobility device" means a self-
36 balancing two nontandem wheeled device, designed to transport only one



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Slingshot/United States

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