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February 17, 2015

Chairman Richard Proehl Committee on Transportation 783 Docking, Rm 582-N Topeka, KS 66612

Re: H.B. 2255

Dear Chairman Proehl and Members of the Committee:

The Board of Riley County Commissioners respectfully opposes the current form of H.B. 2255.

The KDOT revolving loan program has been a useful financial tool for county transportation projects for several years. Riley County does not depend upon the program. But we have made successful loan applications twice in the recent past.

We believe H.B. 2255's elimination of the application process is overkill. Under current law, the Secretary of Transportation has no obligation to approve any application, nor should he have that obligation. However, the answer is not to forbid counties from applying. Certainly the Secretary can now use his discretion to refuse applications. That discretion should remain. But let counties apply so project funding can be considered by KDOT.

The current form of the KDOT revolving loan program serves counties well and should not be closed, as H.B. 2255 does.

Thank you for allowing this Board to provide input opposing H.B. 2255.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF

RILEY COUNTY, KANSAS

Ronald E. Wells, Chair

Ben Wilson, Member

Robert L. Boyd Jr. Member

cc: Kansas Association of Counties