



Written Testimony on SB335
Senate Committee on Transportation

Prepared by the
Kansas Highway Patrol

February 9, 2016

The Kansas Highway Patrol appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding Senate Bill 335. As written in its current form, this bill creates a revenue source for the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center by increasing vehicle registration fees on passenger vehicles, other than motorcycles, having a gross weight of 4,500 pounds or less, by \$2.00.

Approximately 300 Kansas law enforcement officers receive basic training and law enforcement certifications from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC) each year. The mission of KLETC is to "promote and develop law enforcement personnel and procedures throughout the state and offer qualified applicants such programs and courses of instruction designed to fulfill this end." KLETC not only conducts basic training courses, it also instructs the required continuing education for officers statewide. This continuing education is mandatory for officers to maintain their law enforcement certification while providing the most current and up to date training geared toward issues impacting public safety.

Currently, KLETC does not charge tuition fees to cities or counties in order to train their law enforcement officers. By providing this service, the local entities are able to allocate their budgets more effectively. This fee increase simply allows KLETC to continue the practice and further solidify the program going forward.

The citizens of Kansas will continue to benefit from KLETC. The high quality of training conducted by this organization provides for a comprehensive and progressive approach to public safety while creating a sense of personal pride for local law enforcement agencies. KLETC is an invaluable partner to the Kansas Highway Patrol and we strongly encourage passage of SB335.

In closing, the Kansas Highway Patrol understands the importance of SB335. We stand in support of the bill as it is designed to further KLETC's ability to train law enforcement officers that serve the great State of Kansas.

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