



Nick Jordan, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

MEMO

TO: Senator Petersen, Chairman
Senate Committee on Transportation

FROM: Dean Reynoldson
Chief Investigator, Kansas Department of Revenue

DATE: 10 March 2016

RE: House Bill 2522

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. Thank you for allowing us to testify in support of House Bill 2522.

Driver's license fraud is a building block crime enabling criminal organizations to commit an array of more serious crimes.

This bill would position the agency to consider all options with regard to securing our driver's license card, making it as difficult as possible to counterfeit or alter. Current law, which requires a digital color image, restricts the department's options in terms of technology used in producing secure credentials. Enactment of this bill would broaden options for the department to consider advanced security features.

An advanced process of producing portrait images leverages a printing process known as laser etched engraving. This security feature, which is relatively new to driver's licenses, provides for higher resolution images and is very difficult to counterfeit or alter. The card-holder's photograph (portrait) is the heart of the driver's license - the area in most need of protection. Using laser engraving for printing of the photograph would allow the potential to make the card as secure as possible. Some identification-producing vendors who provide the laser engraving option print the photograph in black and white rather than in color. The black and white photo is high resolution and distinctive.

The bottom line of the bill is it would broaden options for the department to consider advanced security features in the future.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.