

ASSOCIATION OF **EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS**

The Honorable John Barker, Chairman House Federal and State Affairs Committee **Kansas Capitol** Topeka, Kansas

March 6, 2018

Re: Support for House Bill 2598

Dear Chairman Barker and Members of the Committee:

I write you on behalf of the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM), the North American-based international trade association representing over 950 companies in the offhighway machinery market. AEM members employ nearly 20,000 workers in Kansas, and contribute \$2.14 billion to the state economy.

AEM supports HB 2598, which will allow for the use of names and addresses sourced from Uniform Commercial Code filings. Equipment manufacturers and their local distributors use this data to document security agreements and to provide relevant and timely information to equipment owners. Under current law, manufacturers can use equipment information from UCC filings, but not company names or persons names, unless also found in a non-Kansas source, such as the phone book.

Passing this legislation would bring Kansas in line with 49 other states and the District of Columbia, which have no limitation on the use of company and persons' names found in the UCC filings. Currently, manufacturers incomplete information for the state of Kansas.

We ask for your support for HB 2598 and that you report it favorably. Thank you for allowing AEM to weigh in on this important issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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