

State of Kansas  
House of Representatives

27487 Wells Creek Rd.  
Wamego, KS 66547-1867  
(785) 456-9799

State Capitol  
Topeka, Kansas 66612  
(785) 296-7310  
ron.highland@house.ks.gov



Ron Highland, DVM, PhD  
Representative, 51st District

Committee Assignments  
Chair: Education  
Appropriations  
Taxation

January 23, 2017

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Transportation Committee

Ref: HB 2040 – An act regulating traffic; concerning the overtaking and passing of school buses, cameras, and penalties.

The issue of vehicles passing stopped school buses while loading or unloading children was brought to my attention by Frank Clark, Transportation Director of USD 378 Riley County Schools. While traveling a country road in my district I witnessed a car passing a stopped school bus with its stop sign extended and lights flashing. After checking further into this situation and visiting with school bus drivers, I became convinced that something needed to be done for the protection of our children.

This bill contains remedies to include increasing the fines for infraction of existing law and methods for capturing the identity of the party at fault. I will turn to transportation directors for their testimonies. I am asking you to carefully consider this bill that offers remedies for this infraction of law. It appears that driver education and awareness campaigns are insufficient.

Respectively submitted,

*Ronald L. Highland, D.V.M., Ph.D.*

Ronald L. Highland, DVM, PhD.  
Representative, Kansas 51st District