

To: Senate Judiciary Committee

From: Amanda L. Stanley, General Counsel

Date: January 23, 2018

RE: Neutral Testimony SB 281

I want to thank Chairman Wilborn and the Committee members for allowing the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 281.

SB 281 amends several statutes related to human trafficking. The League of Kansas Municipalities is neutral on these proposed changes; however, as this bill addresses issues arising from the Kansas Human Trafficking Act, the League asks this committee to consider also amending K.S.A. 8-2,157.

Beginning in July, anyone applying for or seeking renewal of a commercial driver's license will be required to complete training in human trafficking identification and prevention. The goal of this statute is to increase the probability a commercial driver, such as a semi-truck driver, will recognize and report signs of human trafficking. This is a laudable goal; however, the law is extremely broad. Many municipal employees are required to have a commercial driver's license, including snow plow operators, trash collectors, sewer jet truck drivers, and dump truck drivers, that, in reviewing last year's testimony, do not appear to be the target demographic of K.S.A. 8-2,157. These employees do not have a high probability of being in situations where they would have an opportunity to identify human trafficking signs. This results in an increased administrative burden to municipalities without an obvious benefit to the reduction in human trafficking.

As such, we ask that K.S.A. 8-2,157 be amended as follows:

On and after July 1, 2018, an applicant for issuance or renewal of a commercial driver's license, prior to such issuance or renewal, shall complete

training approved by the attorney general in human trafficking identification and prevention and provide satisfactory proof of such completion to the division of vehicles of the department of revenue prior to such issuance or renewal. *The provisions of this statute shall not apply to an applicant for issuance or renewal who is an employee of a municipality and uses his or her CDL exclusively for municipal purposes. Municipality means any county, township, or city.* Not later than January 1, 2019, the attorney general shall, in consultation with the director of vehicles, promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

We fully support the legislative focus on decreasing human trafficking; however, we ask that this committee evaluate the statute to ensure the language is carefully crafted to fulfill the stated goal without creating an increased administrative burden. We respectfully request the committee amend SB 281 to add a section addressing K.S.A. 8-2,157 before sending SB 281 to the full Senate for their consideration.

- 1 K.S.A. 20-1204a, and amendments thereto.
2 Sec. 11. K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 21-5924, 60-31a01, 60-31a02, 60-31a03,
3 60-31a04, 60-31a05, 60-31a06, 60-31a07, 60-31a08 and 60-31a09 are
4 hereby repealed.
5 Sec. 12. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
6 publication in the statute book.

New Sec. 11. On and after July 1, 2018, an applicant for issuance or renewal of a commercial driver's license, prior to such issuance or renewal, shall complete training approved by the attorney general in human trafficking identification and prevention and provide satisfactory proof of such completion to the division of vehicles of the department of revenue prior to such issuance or renewal. *The provisions of this statute shall not apply to an applicant for issuance or renewal who is an employee of a municipality and uses his/her CDL exclusively for municipal purposes. Municipality means any county, township, or city.* Not later than January 1, 2019, the attorney general shall, in consultation with the director of vehicles, promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section.