



January 19, 2018

Members of the Transportation Committee,

I want to thank the members of the Transportation Committee for giving due consideration to the proposed "Slow Down to Get Around" legislation before you. We stand in strong support of the legislation and know firsthand how beneficial such legislation can be for roadway safety in the communities we serve.

According to the National Waste & Recycling Association (NWRA), as many as 40 percent of American motorists are tempted to speed around waste collection vehicles when encountered on our roadways. By contrast, only one-third of American motorists admit to slowing down to get around waste collection vehicles. The data indicate a significant lack of understanding, within the general public, about the dangers associated with the waste industry, which according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is deadlier than both law enforcement and firefighting professions.

Fortunately, your Committee is in a position to make a meaningful impact on roadway safety in the State of Kansas. The "Slow Down to Get Around" legislation before you will help protect not just our employees but all waste collection drivers in Kansas through education and increased penalties for distracted and careless motorists.

As an industry leader, Republic Services places safety above all else. Through continual driver training, comprehensive education programs and strategic partnerships with leading authorities on roadway safety, Republic has built a world class safety platform for collection vehicles drivers nationwide, and right here in Kansas. As a result, today, Republic's safety performance is 41 percent better than the industry average, based on U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration data. Our goal is simple; we want every employee to return home safely at the end of each work day.

On behalf of all of our employees in the State of Kansas, I want to commend your leadership on this vital roadway safety legislation, and in the interests of safety for all Kansans I implore to you make it law,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Kintzle".

Jeff Kintzle
Area President

