



---

Chairman Mike Petersen and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee:

As a state-wide representative of 119 solid waste management officials from around the State of Kansas, the Kansas Sunflower Chapter of the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) would like to comment on the proposed legislation, Senate Bill No. 272, by Committee on Federal and State Affairs (Session of 2018). We understand that this proposed legislation will be discussed at a committee meeting on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 8:30 am.

The Executive Board of the SWANA Kansas Sunflower Chapter would like to stand in support of Senate Bill No. 272. We believe this legislation will protect waste and recycling collection workers who work hard every day to keep our Kansas communities clean and safe. The most recent data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that the waste and recycling collection occupation ranks fifth in the nation for fatal work injury rates, higher fatality rates than police and firefighters. Recent data shows that many accidents involving waste and recycling collection workers are caused by inattentive motorists and distracted driving. This legislation will save lives, prevent unnecessary accidents and injuries, and make the roads in our Kansas communities safer.

Our most important objective is to ensure waste and recycling collection workers return home safely to their families every night.

Kathy Richardson, Chapter President  
Kansas Sunflower Chapter  
Solid Waste Association of North America