



Kansas Motor Carriers Association

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Executive Director

**Legislative Testimony
by the
Kansas Motor Carriers Association
before the
Senate Ways and Means Committee
Senator Carolyn McGinn, Chairman
Wednesday, January 24, 2018**

**MADAM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE:**

I am Tom Whitaker, Executive Director of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association. I'm joined here today by Melissa Kershner, KMCA's Director of Governmental Relations and Safety. We appear here today representing our 890-member companies and the highway transportation industry in support of Senate Bill No. 285 which establishes a Joint Legislative Transportation Task Force.

The Kansas Motor Carriers Association appreciates being a part of the Task Force. The Kansas Trucking Industry provides 72,570 jobs and pays 43% of all taxes owed by Kansas motorists, despite representing only 13% of the miles traveled in the state.

We believe that Senate Bill No. 285 will provide a solid foundation for the next transportation program and commend those in the Legislature for their forward thinking on this issue.

KMCA does have some concerns with the makeup of the Task Force. It appears to be heavily weighted towards those that would benefit financially from a new transportation plan. We would suggest the addition of highway user groups, such as AAA of Kansas or the Owner-Operators Independent Drivers Association, be added to the task force.

Madam Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in support of Senate Bill No. 285. We hope you will take our suggestion concerning the makeup of the Task Force under consideration and we would be pleased to respond to any questions you may have.

