



To: House Taxation Committee
From: Travis Stryker, P.E.
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers
Date: March 12, 2019
Re: Support of HB 2370

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer remarks regarding House Bill 2370.

I am Travis Stryker, a Licensed Professional Engineer in Topeka and Chairman of the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers' Government Relations Committee.

The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) represents the Licensed Professional Engineers across the state. For over 100 years, KSPE has worked to promote public safety by delivering professional engineering services, encouraging licensure, and advocating legislation and public policy for the betterment of human welfare and the industry.

KSPE is excited to weigh in on legislation relating to the next comprehensive transportation plan. House Bill 2370 would phase in a three-cent increase for motor fuel and other fuels. This bill is part of a fourteen-bill group introduced in the Senate and House relating to the planning and funding of the next comprehensive transportation program. Although we understand the state's fiscal environment over the last several years, infrastructure safety is essential for our state's development. KSPE has already testified in support of several of the other bills as possible funding sources for the next comprehensive transportation program.

KSPE does not relish the idea of increasing fuel taxes. However, this bill could help provide a stable funding source for the new ten-year plan. The 21 remaining projects for T-WORKS illustrates the need for this bill. Funds generated from fuel tax to State Highway Fund are protected by the Kansas Constitution and cannot be transferred.

Infrastructure safety is paramount to our society's mission. HB 2370 can help make this possible. We encourage the support of HB 2370.

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to submit our thoughts.

Respectfully,
Travis Stryker, P.E.