



February 8, 2019, 2019

Hearing on House Bill 2126

Chairman Richard Proehl and members of the Committee on Transportation:

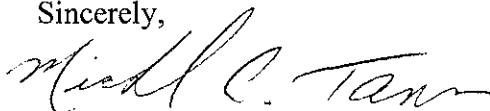
The City of Wichita supports House Bill 2126 which provides state statutory definitions of electric-assisted scooters and allows municipalities to regulate the operation of such scooters within city boundaries. Recently, a number of municipalities, including the City of Wichita have been contacted by companies desiring to introduce dockless shared electric scooter systems to the City as an alternate form of transportation.

The City of Wichita believes that the operation of such scooters would not only provide an alternate form of transportation, but would increase the vibrancy of the city's downtown and local attractions.

At the state level, these scooters are currently not subject to regulation because they do not fit within the statutory definition of bicycle, motorized bicycle, motor cycle or motor vehicle. The proposed statute allows municipalities to set local regulations regarding the manner in which such scooters can be operated. Decisions regarding the use of these vehicles is best left to local legislation to determine where, when and how such vehicles should be operated. Such local regulation will promote the health and safety of scooter operators, motor vehicle operators and pedestrians.

The City of Wichita urges passage of this legislation to allow the regulation of electric assist scooters by cities pursuant to its Home Rule and police powers.

Sincerely,


Michael C. Tann
City of Wichita, Transit Director

Transit Operations Center
777 East Waterman • Wichita, Kansas 67202
T 316.265.1450
F 316.858.7790
www.wichita.gov