

**SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
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Contact Iris by phone at: **785-296-6817**

Date of Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Bill #:	OR	Presentation on:
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**Print** Name and phone number of person who will be testifying:

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**Print** Name and phone number of contact person if different:

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Agency Represented:

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Check all that apply:

Proponent	Opponent	Neutral
Oral Testimony ( <b>Speaking</b> )	Written Only ( <b>Not Speaking</b> )	

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Herman T. Jones, Superintendent

Laura Kelly, Governor

Written Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 358  
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Presented by  
Colonel Herman T. Jones  
Kansas Highway Patrol

February 5, 2020

The Kansas Highway Patrol appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony on changes set forth in Senate Bill 358. This bill would codify what is, in part, currently being done via Memorandum of Understanding between the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Kansas Department of Revenue. The bill would permanently transfer the duties related to Ignition Interlock Vendor Compliance to the Kansas Highway Patrol and provide the monies currently collected and distributed to the Kansas Department of Revenue to the Kansas Highway Patrol. These monies would be used exclusively to regulate Ignition Interlock Vendors in the State of Kansas. Currently the duties of Ignition Interlock Vendor Compliance are being completed by Kansas Highway Patrol pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding.

A principal function of the Kansas Highway Patrol is to enforce traffic and other laws of this state relating to highways, vehicles and drivers of vehicles. Consistent with this function is the Agency's Mission and Goals which state in part, that the "The Patrol will deter motorists from driving impaired and will arrest impaired drivers through proven DUI countermeasures, such as selective enforcement efforts and sobriety check lanes." It is the Patrol's belief the Ignition Interlock requirement for Driving Under the Influence Offenders is a valuable tool in preventing impaired drivers from operating vehicles on Kansas roadways. As our Agency's mission is prevention of impaired driving and enforcement of Kansas Statutes it seems only natural the Ignition Interlock Program would reside within our agency.

The Kansas Department of Revenue has jurisdiction, and will continue to be the authority, over which drivers are mandated to acquire Ignition Interlock Devices from a private vendor. Transferring the regulation of vendors to a second independent agency like the Patrol ensures there is no appearance or question of favoritism towards vendors by the agency mandating the Ignition Interlock Requirement. Customers will be able to have confidence the installation, calibration and removal of these devices will be regulated by an agency with no vested interest in the process other than the prevention of impaired driving and fairness to the customer.

The Patrol has also undertaken, with funding and support provided by the Kansas Department of Transportation, a program dedicated to Ignition Interlock Customer Compliance. Currently two troopers are assigned to this program and are tasked with contacting customers who are actively circumventing their Ignition Interlock Devices. The Patrol's goal with this program is to change customer behavior and try to limit recidivism. Transfer of the Vendor Program to the Patrol will allow a seamless and efficient method for vendors in the state to report all issues with customers to the same agency they report for vendor compliance. Information will be shared by all stakeholders in a more efficient and timely manner which will make Kansas roadways safer.

In closing, the Kansas Highway Patrol supports SB 358 because it will provide the citizens of Kansas with an efficient program designed to prevent tragedy while maintaining fairness to the customers who are mandated to utilize an Ignition Interlock Device. The Patrol believes the transfer of the authority currently assigned to the Kansas Department of Revenue will make the roadways safer and streamline regulatory efforts.

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