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**Testimony to the House Transportation Committee
In Support of HB2628
February 14, 2022**

Chairman Proehl and Committee Members:

Our associations support HB2628 addressing a very serious traffic safety issue, gross speeding violations. This problem has become very prevalent with alarming increases in the number of violators at these extremely high speeds, as shown by the data in the testimony from the Kansas Highway Patrol. Enhancing the penalties for these extreme speeding violations should help reduce these incidents. We believe it would be hard to argue that driving a vehicle at such speeds is not a reckless act: "Drives any vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property." No one exceeds the speed limits to that degree due to the lack of attention, it is a choice they make to drive at those speeds.

Clearly accidents are more likely to occur at these high speeds, and when they do the damage and injuries will be much higher.

We encourage you to move this bill forward favorably.

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