

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**REGARDING SENATE BILL 424
RELATING TO THE KANSAS PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM**

March 12, 2024

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

I am Catherine Magaña, Legislative Policy Analyst and Liaison for the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). I am here today to provide proponent testimony on Senate Bill 424. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and to provide comments.

We are proud to share that the proposed legislation was prepared with a statewide stakeholders group represented by KDOT, the Kansas Society of Land Surveyors, the Kansas Association of Mappers, the Kansas GIS Policy Board, and staff of the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration and National Geodetic Survey, or NOAA and NGS. This collaboration has resulted in the initiative to keep Kansas in line with federal standards and improve the capacity and efficiency of the state's surveying professionals.

The proposed updates to Kansas Statutes would support the planned update by the federal governments' National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Geodetic Survey (NGS) scheduled for 2025, relative to surveying and mapping reference systems and the definition in units of measurement. The Kansas Regional Coordinate System, funded and developed by the Kansas Department of Transportation in 2017, will be the base surveying reference system for the NOAA/NGS coordinate system. This new update by the federal government will afford more uniform surveying and mapping reference systems that do not rely on independent mapping projections by surveying professionals of this state.

It has been 40 years since the last time a new basis system for mapping was implemented. This bill would not only provide the necessary update for the current plane coordinate system, but would further account for the implementation of any future mapping basis or adjustments, meaning no further legislation would be required to update Kansas coordinate standards.

The proposed statutes updates can be implemented within KDOT's existing budget limits, requiring no additional budget increases to the agency or the state.

On behalf of KDOT I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 424. I am happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.