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**OPPONENNT TESTIMONY BEFORE
THE HOUSE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**REGARDING HOUSE BILL 2578
RELATING TO ANTIQUE PLATES FOR FARM VEHICLES**

February 5, 2026

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

I am Joel Skelley, Director of Policy for The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOR). I am here today to provide testimony in opposition to House Bill 2578, would provide farm vehicles over 35 years old with the ability to qualify as an antique vehicle.

This bill has a significant fiscal note impact to the State Highway Fund (SHF). The Kansas Department of Revenue (KDOR) states that the bill would increase the number of permanent antique vehicle registrations and present an annual loss in registration fees deposited into the SHF for those vehicles. There are approximately 52,000 potential vehicles currently registered under 26,001 pounds as farm vehicles, which are not currently registered as antique but would meet the requirements for the new antique registration class under this bill. KDOR estimates that the average annual loss in revenue to the State Highway Fund would be approximately \$4 million.

This bill as worded would also allow for farm vehicles above 26,001 pounds to register as an antique vehicle. KDOR estimates there are approximately 24,000 of these heavier vehicles eligible for registration as an antique vehicle.

Under Kansas state law, antique vehicles do not have to register with a specific weight. Non-antique registration fees increase in cost based on increasing vehicle weights. This is due to heavier vehicles causing significantly more wear and tear on roads and bridges. This method acts as a usage-based fee where larger trucks pay more for the increased damage they cause compared to lighter passenger vehicles. If this bill were to be enacted, those heavier vehicles would not be charged a registration fee comparable to the non-antique vehicles transporting the same weights that are less than 35 years old.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to HB 2578. I am happy to stand for questions at the appropriate time.