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**OPPONENT TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

**REGARDING SB 411
RELATING TO TRIPLE TRAILERS ON HIGHWAYS**

February 10, 2026

I am Joel Skelley, Director of Policy for the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). I am here today to provide testimony in opposition to SB 411.

The Kansas Department of Transportation's (KDOT) purpose is to "Deliver transportation that keeps Kansas moving forward." The agency works every day to operate a highway network and supports the locally owned roadway network that provides safe and efficient transportation for all Kansans, including the trucking and agriculture industries. KDOT relies on both federal and state funding for preservation, modernization, and expansion of the vast Kansas roadway network.

Federal law establishes weight limits (23 CFR 658.17) on the interstate highway system and length limitations (23 CFR 658.23 and 23 CFR 658.13), including the operation of triple trailers, on the National Highway System. SB 411 would put the State of Kansas out of compliance with federal law and would result in a significant loss of federal funds. If SB 411 is passed, it is estimated that approximately \$187.0 million in federal highway aid to Kansas would be withheld on an annual basis. Unless a new revenue source were identified to replace these funds, KDOT would be required to cancel critical IKE highway preservation, modernization and expansion projects.

Furthermore, the increased weight limit established in SB 411 would require all bridges on the state highway system to be load rated for this new legal load. This would likely require existing bridges to be load posted at a level less than the level in SB 411, limiting the effectiveness of this law.

KDOT currently grants permits for oversize and overweight loads and works with truck operators to transport loads in compliance with existing regulations. The agency will continue to work with stakeholders on this issue but respectfully requests that this bill not be passed due to its fiscal consequences for transportation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 411. I am happy to answer any questions at the appropriate time.