

Testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 441

Senate Transportation Committee – 13 March, 2018

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I am Bill Lucero, lobbyist for the Kaw Valley Bicycle Club located in Topeka Kansas. As you may recall, a coalition of bicyclists, motorcyclists, pedestrian rights advocates and representatives of law enforcement provided 11 pieces of oral testimony in support of Senate Bill 274 on March 30<sup>th</sup> which addressed distracted motorists' negligent driving throughout the state, as many counties, municipalities and the state itself still lack such a traffic violation in that regard. There was no opposition voiced to the bill.

Eventually you saw fit to substitute Hutchison ordinance language which has previously been upheld by our Supreme Court to amend the bill which was then sent to the floor and never was acted upon before the turnaround deadline. But our need for this statute is as relevant today as it was then and we are grateful for Senator Schmidt and Chairman Petersen's determination to pursue passage of this much needed legislation. I hope you all are grateful that I am not going to rehash all of our previous reasons as to why this bill is so badly needed. Instead, I have with me all of the testimony previously submitted and would be happy to revisit any of it if needed. Otherwise both I and Andy Fry of the Topeka Community Cycling Project are open to responding to any questions related to the bill.

Bill Lucero

Lobbyist

Kaw Valley Bicycle Club