



Kansas Society of Professional Engineers

A state society of the National Society of Professional Engineers

**House Transportation and Public Safety
Testimony of Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE)
Submitted by Ron Gaches
In Opposition of HB 2137
Wednesday, March 6, 2013**

Chairman Peck and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to HB 2137.

The Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) is an association of licensed professional engineers across the state. The KSPE goal is to promote, recognize, and enhance the engineering profession by delivering professional development products and services, encouraging licensure, and advocating legislation and public policy for the betterment of human welfare and the profession.

In 2008 the Legislature passed a bill that placed a \$4.00 surcharge on vehicle registrations. This was a funding mechanism for the Division of Vehicles Modernization Project and was scheduled to sunset on January 1, 2013. The 2010 Legislature extended the surcharge and directed to money to the State Highway Fund. This is part of the funding mechanism for T-WORKS and provides about \$12.4 million per year to the highway fund and about \$112 million over the next seven years. HB 2137 would end the \$4.00 surcharge and greatly put at risk the funding stream for the T-WORKS program. We must ensure that we fully fund the T-WORKS program that provides jobs and public safety to the citizens of Kansas.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue. KSPE respectfully urges you to oppose HB 2137.

Ron Gaches
Executive Director,
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers