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SB 307

Written Testimony before the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee

Marlee Carpenter, Executive Director, Travel Industry Association of Kansas

Chairman Estes and honorable committee members,

The Travel Industry Association of Kansas (TIAK) speaks with one voice for the travel industry in the State of Kansas, promoting and supporting all components of the travel industry and travel development field. We currently have over 175 members. We work closely with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism in the promotion, marketing and advocacy of travel and tourism in the state.

TIAK members support SB 307, changes to the amusement ride bill that was passed last session. Several changes passed last session caused complications to those engaged in this type of activity. We understand the need for this legislation, but also need for these new laws to not hinder tourism activities in the state, especially in the argritourism area. TIAK has been active and engaged in working with stakeholders on changes to the law and to this bill. TIAK supports the proposed amendments that will be offered to this bill and will continue to work with all parties to ensure a workable bill for those engaged in tourism activities in the state that balances the safety concerns of lawmakers.

As the leading organization for tourism in Kansas, TIAK respectfully asks for your support of SB 307 and the passage of bills that will attract visitors to our state and local communities. Thank you for the opportunity to present comments on behalf of Kansas tourism professionals.