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Written Testimony in Opposition of Senate Bill 390
Senate Committee on Transportation
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February 18, 2020

The Kansas Highway Patrol appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony in opposition of Senate Bill 390. We respectfully request the Committee consider our agency's concerns. This bill would allow cement trucks to display their registration on either the front or the back of the truck. In Kansas no other vehicles are given an exemption on the placement of license plates. This includes other trucks with dump beds or vehicles hauling other types of construction equipment. The Kansas Highway Patrol has concerns with the either/or requirements in this bill and how consistently registration requirements will be enforced.

If the license plate must be moved to the front of the vehicle, we would ask for the placement to be consistent. License plates are already mounted in the front of what are commonly referred to as semi-trucks. When it comes to the enforcement of registration on these vehicles officers know exactly where to look. Under the proposed bill if a license plate was not located on the back of a cement truck, the officer will assume it is on the front and vis versa when the reality is that the truck is not registered at all. Just like with expiration stickers on license plates we believe that consistent placement will lead to consistent enforcement.

The back of a cement truck has a lot of moving parts and we understand that debris may hit and damage the license plate, or the plate may be covered with material. Under K.S.A. 8-133 (c) a license plate is only required to be at a minimum of 12 inches off the ground, there are no maximum height limitations. If the license plate can be mounted on the back of a cement truck and moved higher and out of the way of the debris field this would be preferable.

It is for these reasons that we oppose SB-390 and we sincerely thank members of this committee for their consideration of our testimony.

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