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To: House Committee on Education

Re: Written Testimony in Support of SB 215 (Commercial Driving Schools)  
March 16, 2022

Good afternoon Chair Huebert and Members of the Committee;

Thank you for this opportunity to speak favorably of Senate Bill 215. SB 215 is an opportunity for the Legislature to consolidate and streamline the oversight of commercial driving schools, motorcycle safety courses, and truck driving courses. The changes requested in SB 215 are the result of cooperation and collaboration among the Kansas Department of Revenue, the Kansas Board of Regents, and the Kansas State Department of Education. The Kansas State Department of Education feels these changes are necessary and appropriate to remove complicated procedures while ensuring the safe and appropriate instruction of Kansas drivers.

Under current law, commercial driving schools submit applications to the Kansas State Department of Education for instructor and for operator licenses. Once licensed, these schools are then also subject to rules and regulations from both the Kansas State Department of Education and the Department of Revenue. This has been unduly burdensome on the businesses as well as the state agencies. Adoption of SB 215 centralizes oversight of commercial driving schools while maintaining high standards of safety and accountability.

KSDE is not aware of any downside to adopting SB 215, and is happy to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Scott Gordon".

R. Scott Gordon  
General Counsel, KSDE