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**Testimony on SB 172**  
**PROPONENT**  
House Judiciary Committee

Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Chairman Patton and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 172, creating crimes regarding trespassing and damage to critical infrastructure facilities.

Critical infrastructure in Kansas takes on many forms. From agriculture and water systems to electricity and telecommunications, infrastructure plays a critical role in our economy and our security.

Communications infrastructure is essential for our state's public safety community, our healthcare systems and increasingly, our public education systems. Video communications and real time streaming have become central, not only to emergency communications, but everyday life, education and commerce.

AT&T appreciates and supports the intent of SB 172 to protect critical infrastructure by increasing penalties for individuals who intentionally tamper, harm or vandalize the critical infrastructure systems that are essential in maintaining the services that Kansans depend on. Protecting the infrastructure that serves Kansas communities has never been more important and we are encouraged by this body's intention to protect the systems that Kansans use every day.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Molly Kocour Boyle".

Molly Kocour Boyle  
President – AT&T Kansas