

Statement of
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Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense,
Military Community and Family Policy

Kansas House Bill 2459

Introduction: Good morning Mister Chair and Committee Members. I am Martin Dempsey a lifelong motorcycle enthusiast and Kansas resident. I am an experienced motorcycle rider with over 40 years of riding enjoyment. I am also a retired Air Force Chief Master Sergeant with 24 years active duty.

I characterize my riding experience as enjoyment primarily because of the motorcycle education I received while on active duty. The education and safety training go far beyond the basic familiarity of riding principles most states require to operate a motorcycle. Although I had four years of experience under my belt prior to entering the service, the training I received while taking the service connected training opened up an entire new attitude while I rode my motorcycle.

The training provided by the service, was then and remains now, the benchmark safety training in the nation. The constant safety awareness and defensive driving techniques have kept me safe for the past 30 years. They continue to keep me safe today as I refer back to my training every time I mount my motorcycle.

I feel passing HB2459 sends a good message to the military stationed in Kansas that you believe they are well disciplined and trained properly to operate a motorcycle on the roads of Kansas.

Thank you for your time, Sincerely, Martin Dempsey phone: (785) 263-1945