

Building A Sustainable Earth Community Presents The 5th Annual Breaking The Silence Conference

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RE: Senate Resolution 1805

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Transportation Committee,

I want to thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony in support of SR 1805. My name is Richard Mabion and as a recently elected Board member for the Kansas Chapter of the Sierra Club, and founder of the Breaking The Silence environmental conference in Kansas City, Kansas, I would like to add the support of Building A Sustainable Earth Community (BSEC).

BSEC knows that to build such a community; connectivity is critical to overall sustainability concerns. Livable streets – sometimes referred to as complete streets – are roadways designed to allow for safe and convenient travel by all users, including motor vehicles, pedestrians (including those with disabilities), transit vehicles and bicyclists both along and across the corridor. By making roads more accessible for all modes of transportation, livable streets provide safe and convenient travel for persons of all ages and abilities, including children and the elderly. Livable streets encourage both, environmental and economic actions through the promotion of healthier neighborhoods and safer streets.

Since safe and livable bicycle, pedestrian and transit systems are important to the economy and economic development of Kansas, we would encourage the Kansas Senate to declare support for livable streets policies and urge their adoption at the local, metropolitan, regional, state and national levels.