

# GOVERNOR'S MILITARY COUNCIL

Testimony in Support of HB 2459  
Senate Standing Committee on Transportation  
February 16, 2012

Chair Umbarger and members of the Committee, I'm John Armbrust, Executive Director of the Governor's Military Council. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2459.

In today's environment of defense budget reductions and the possibility of future rounds of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), it is important for the State of Kansas to take all prudent actions possible to demonstrate Kansas is a military friendly state. This is especially true given the fiscal and economic impact of military activities in Kansas.

Several years ago Wichita State University conducted an analysis of the fiscal and economic impact of military activities in Kansas. They concluded that: military activities in Kansas add approximately \$7.5B per year to the state's Gross State Product; over 165,000 people are employed as a result of these military activities and their wages total over \$5.5B per year; and, military activities in Kansas generate approximately \$390M per year in property, sales and income taxes.

HB 2459 helps military personnel assigned to a Kansas installation to obtain a Kansas permit after meeting all DoD training requirements for riding a motorcycle on a DoD installation. If HB 2459 is passed, this will save these veterans, who have sacrificed so much, both time and money while also ensuring they are familiar with motorcycle safety and the rules of the road.

Mr. Chair and members of the Committee, I urge your support of HB 2459.

Senate  
Transp.

Att: 4  
2/16/12