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Governor Jeff Colyer, M.D.

TESTIMONY BEFORE
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

REGARDING SENATE BILL 391
RELATED TO MAXIMUM WEIGHT LIMITS OF EMERGENCY VEHICLES

February 13, 2018

Madam Chair and Committee Members:

Good Morning, I am Joel Skelley for the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and I am here today to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 391.

KDOT requested this amendment to Kansas Statute to bring the state into compliance with federal law under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. The language in this bill is taken straight from Section 1410 of the FAST Act, which amends 23 U.S.C. 127(a) with respect to emergency vehicles.

This bill allows an emergency vehicle to operate at a gross weight not to exceed 86,000 pounds. The weights on axles are also governed as listed below.

- (1) 24,000 pounds on a single steering axle;
- (2) 33,500 pounds on a single drive axle;
- (3) 62,000 pounds on a tandem axle;
- (4) 52,000 pounds on a tandem rear drive steer axle

An emergency vehicle as used in this bill is a vehicle designed to be used under emergency conditions to transport personnel and equipment and support the suppression of fires and mitigation of other hazardous situations.

KDOT supports SB 391 and would ask for favorable passage out of committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.