



House Appropriations Committee
March 20, 2019
Jacqueline Clark, Ash Grove Cement Company
HB 2369
Support

Chairman Waymaster, Vice Chairman Hoffman and Members of the House Appropriations Committee:

I am Jacqueline Clark, Ash Grove Cement Company's head of governmental relations. I offer comments from our company in support of your efforts to invest in transportation projects in Kansas. I regret not being able to be with you in person today.

As you may know, Ash Grove's corporate office is located in Overland Park. We are in our 137th year in the cement manufacturing business. You may be aware that our company was purchased by CRH, plc., and we continue operating here with "business as usual." Many of you are familiar with our Chanute cement manufacturing plant where more than 125 employees are located.

For many years, Ash Grove has supported all efforts to fully fund transportation infrastructure in Kansas. We have been actively engaged in recent sessions to stem the tide of shifting funds away from transportation projects or to find additional revenue sources.

Last year we were engaged in supporting the development of the Transportation Task Force. Once formed, we followed its meetings closely. HB 2369 is a result of the good work the Task Force completed.

We support HB 2369. We appreciate that this bill will allow partial tolling for projects. This approach allows for greater flexibility for funding.

We look forward to discussing the Task Force's other recommendations. Thank you for the focus you are bringing to transportation funding. We are eager to support your efforts.