



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 2289		DATE: 2/15/2024
COMMITTEE: Transportation Accountability		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2024 11:59 PM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DIANE HUMPHREY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dianehumphrey148@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/12/2024 9:15 PM

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Justice for baby Jaxx! He was not a employee of Modot!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DON BICKHAUS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: doniibecky@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/10/2024 5:55 PM
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I heartily agree!



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JAY WUNDERLICH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65102
EMAIL: jay.wunderlich@modot.mo.gov	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 5:12 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Dear Chairman Mayhew and Members of the Committee on Transportation Accountability, We are writing on behalf of the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission (the Commission) to express the Commission’s opposition to House Bill (HB) 2289. The current non-partisan, independent Commission structure, in place since the 1921 Centennial Road Law, helps ensure that the State Highway System (SHS) is built, improved and maintained in a fair and equitable manner that is in the best interest of all system users. The Commission’s current structure, with each member serving as an at-large member and charged with representing the interests of all areas of the state, helps ensure that no area of the state is favored or receives an unjust proportion of highway and bridge improvement or maintenance funding. Additionally, the current text of the Missouri constitution seeks to insulate the Commission from partisan politics by requiring that “not more than one half of [Commission] members ... be of the same political party.” Eliminating politics from the Commission’s operation helps prevent the often-shifting political winds from influencing the Commission’s distribution of funds for the planning, maintenance and construction of the SHS. Finally, while the Commission understands that the majority of executive branch state agencies are in the charge of a director appointed by the Governor, that structure is not appropriate for the Department of Transportation or in the best interest of Missouri road users and taxpayers. Highway construction projects are expensive and funds are expended from the State Road Fund to pay for these projects. These projects require long-rang planning and funding stability to delivery large investments in transportation infrastructure. This is only possible by vesting the authority to expend these funds in an independent Commission, free from partisan politics, ensuring that these important projects are both planned and completed as promised to Missourians. HB 2289 would eliminate all of these constitutional protections that Missouri citizens and road users established, revert highway improvement planning and funding to political exercises, and return Missouri to the 1920s. For all of these reasons and more, the Commission strenuously opposes HB 2289 and hopes you will consider the Commission’s position as you decide whether to advance or vote down the bill. Yours very truly, Terry L. Ecker, Chairman W. Dustin Boatwright, P.E., Vice Chairman



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: JEFF GLENN		PHONE NUMBER:
REPRESENTING: MISSOURIANS FOR TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 772		
CITY: CAPE GIRARDEAU		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63702
EMAIL: info@mfti.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 1:49 PM

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Missourians for Transportation Investment (MFTI) is opposed to the proposed language included in House Bill 2289 (HB 2289). This bill would dissolve the six-member State Highways and Transportation Commission and place the state transportation department under the charge of a director appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The provisions of this bill will become effective only with the passage and approval by the voters of a Constitutional Amendment submitted to them by the General Assembly regarding the dissolution of State Highways and Transportation Commission. Under current law, commissioners are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. The first bipartisan State Highway and Commission was created by the "Centennial Road Law" in 1921. For more than 100 years, Missouri citizens have been appointed to provide oversight to the department of transportation. The language in this resolution would remove that oversight body from Missouri law.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RANDY SCHERR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rjscherr@swllc.us.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/8/2024 8:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: RAY MCCARTY		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2246
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF MISSOURI; MO. TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL		TITLE: PRESIDENT/CEO
ADDRESS: 3234 W TRUMAN BLVD		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: rmccarty@aimo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/7/2024 4:27 PM
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Associated Industries of Missouri and the Mo. Transportation Development Council oppose eliminating the Mo. Highways and Transportation Commission.