

***Kansas Farm Bureau  
Policy Statement***

**House Committee on  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
SB 168; Limiting nuisance actions against  
certain agricultural activities**

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Written Testimony by:  
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Chairperson Schwartz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony on Senate Bill 168 limiting nuisance actions against certain agricultural activities. I am Michael Irvin, Legislative Counsel - Governmental Relations for the Kansas Farm Bureau.

Kansas Farm Bureau stands in support SB 168.

Our members have adopted policy which strongly supports legislation which will prevent any increased liability for owners of land or livestock.

As you know KFB is the state's largest general farm organization representing more than 40,000 farm and ranch families through 105 county Farm Bureau Associations. Our members farm, ranch, and make their homes in communities across the state. They benefit each day from the existence of laws that protect farmland and agricultural activities from nuisance actions.

It is the policy of this state to conserve, protect and encourage the development and improvement of farmland for the production of food and other agricultural products. The Kansas Legislature has found that conflicts often arise when nonagricultural uses and users move into areas that traditionally have conducted agricultural activities, leading to increased lawsuits.

This measure would further expand the protections afforded farmers and ranchers under the so called "Right to Farm" statutes. It would give producers the ability to

expand/change their activities and operations without the fear of new nuisance lawsuits, especially in areas that have seen tremendous population growth.

Our members are always striving to improve and develop more efficient agricultural activities, to increase production and add value to their communities and this state. Without additional protections, many of our members will be forced to change their business plans, operational practices, so much so that it could even force the premature removal of these lands from agricultural uses.

We appreciate the opportunity to present these comments today. KFB stands ready to assist this committee to ensure that all agricultural producers have the opportunity to have their concerns addressed about their future of their agricultural community and industry.

Thank you.