

March 20, 2013

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Dodge City Convention and Visitors Bureau

400 West Wyatt Earp

Dodge City Kansas 67801

Written Testimony in support of HB 2402

Before the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Chairman Schwartz and members of the Committee:

Thank You for the opportunity to present testimony in favor of HB 2402, that proposes to designate the last Saturday in July of each year as National Day of the Cowboy in Kansas.

This testimony represents support for the bill HB2402.

The National Day of the Cowboy original resolution 5020 was introduced in the house in 2009 with the aid of then representative Pat George. It stated that the pioneering men and women helped establish the American West. It went on to say that the cowboy spirit continues to infuse this country with its solid character, sound family values, and good common sense. The cowboy embodies honesty, integrity, compassion, respect, and a strong work ethic.

Our vision would be that by introducing this bill, Kansas would be aiding with the preservation and recognition for our cowboy heritage so that the history and culture can be shared and perpetuated for the public good, through education, the arts, celebrations, gatherings, rodeos, and community activities.

Cowboys are not only a part of our past, but are an active part of Kansas life today, working cowboys, cowboy ranchers, cowboy artists, and rodeo cowboys, just to name a few. To recognize this day, is an endorsement of not only who we were, but who we are today.

By passing this bill, Kansas would become the fourth State to pass the National Day of Cowboy recognition, joining Wyoming, California, and New Mexico. Currently, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, and Florida are all working towards making this day recognized in perpetuity.

Thank You for your consideration of passing HB 2402. By doing such, you will aid with honoring the Cowboy Heritage that is lived and celebrated every day in Kansas.

House Agriculture & Natural
Resources Committee
Date 3-20-2013
Attachment # 2