



KANSAS FARM BUREAU
The Voice of Agriculture

2627 KFB Plaza, Manhattan, Kansas 66503-8508 • 785-587-6000 • Fax 785-587-6602 • www.kfb.org

Office of the President

April 30, 2013

Honorable Sam Brownback
Governor of Kansas
300 SW 10th Avenue, Suite 241-S
Topeka, KS 66612-1590

Via Electronic Mail

RE: Funding for NBAF in Kansas

Dear Governor Brownback;

Thank you for your steadfast leadership in the effort to locate the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility in Manhattan. I write today to offer our strong support for the project and for the cost-share proposal you recently forwarded to the Kansas Legislature.

The security of America's food supply and our agricultural economy is of paramount importance, not only to farmers and ranchers but also to every citizen. We simply cannot ignore the opportunity placed before us to build this facility, capture its research potential, and dramatically expand our ability to ensure the safety of our food supply and the health of our nation.

As you know, NBAF will be a state-of-the-art facility equipped to conduct world-class research, develop vaccines and antiviral therapies, and train veterinarians and public health officials on identification of and response to foreign animal and zoonotic diseases. When completed, it will offer opportunity for the integrated research, development, testing and evaluation of technologies and tools that will provide critical solutions to address both naturally-occurring and deliberate bio-threats against agriculture and public health. Furthermore, the NBAF will assist in keeping American agriculture competitive and maintain our position as a world leader in advanced diagnostic capabilities.

After multiple assessments and reviews in the design phase we can say with confidence that this facility will be built to the highest safety standards to insure that what goes in stays in. Similar standards keep tens of millions of residents safe in places where comparable labs studying diseases already exist.

Farmers and ranchers across this great state understand our agriculture heritage. It gives us a true equity stake in the location of this facility. We also

Senate Ways and Means Committee

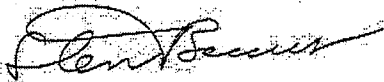
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know that without advances in research and our ability to combat the introduction of any number of threats, we have much to lose. That heritage and our desire for a productive, profitable future lead to our strong support for this effort and for the cost-share needed to bring construction of the lab to fruition.

Again, thank you for your commitment to agriculture and to the future of animal health. If I can provide additional details or be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steve Baccus".

Steve Baccus
President