



**To:** House Transportation Committee, Sen. Mike Petersen, Chair

**From:** Tim Stroda, Kansas Pork Association

**Date:** March 14, 2017

**Written Testimony in support of HB 2095- Concerning Gross Truck Weights**

Thank you Chairman Petersen and members of the committee. I appreciate the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2095. My name is Tim Stroda, President-CEO of the Kansas Pork Association (KPA). KPA represents the state's pork farmers.

Our farmers utilize trucks to haul grain, feed, machinery and fuel to our farms. Trucking is also the only means available to transport pigs to market. Due to fact there are no processing plants in Kansas, the large majority of the state's market hogs are trucked across state lines into states that allow larger trucks.

KPA is supportive of HB 2095 because we believe it would enhance the efficiency of our farms if Kansas regulations matched our surrounding states.

We respectfully ask that this committee pass HB 2095 out of committee favorably. Thank you.

# Kansas Pork Industry Facts



## **Pork farmers make Kansas better**

1. There are about 1,000 hog farms in Kansas. Of these operations, 150 produce over 99% of the state's pigs.
2. Kansas is the number 10 state in hog and pig inventory producing about 2.7 percent of the nation's total.
3. In 2015, Kansas producers sold 3,298,673 market hogs, feeder pigs and seedstock with a gross market value of \$494,289,775. These hogs produced over 600,000,000 pounds of pork which helps feed millions of people in the U.S. and abroad through exports.

## **Pork industry important to Kansas economy**

Kansas pork farms consume over 30 million bushels of grain. Primarily, these operations utilize Kansas-grown grain sorghum and corn. At January 2017 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$90,000,000 on grain sorghum and corn this year.

Kansas pork farms also consume the equivalent of over eight million bushels of soybeans through soybean products. At January 2017 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$76,000,000 on soybean meal this year.

Kansas pork farmers support suppliers of goods and services to their businesses. A short list of vendors includes:

- **Feed suppliers** - grain and nutritional supplements.
- **Construction** - includes new building and maintenance.
- **Labor** - as with any business, growth means increased labor needs.
- **Supplies** - pork producers utilize Main Street businesses for a vast array of items ranging from veterinary supplies to office supplies.
- **Equipment** - pork producers utilize specialty equipment for many tasks including nutrient management.
- **Utilities** - gas, propane and electric.
- **Trucking** - producers utilize trucking to bring grain to the farm as well as hauling hogs to market.
- **Services** - pork producers utilize many services along Main Street including financial, medical, accounting, legal, engineering, and veterinary.

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