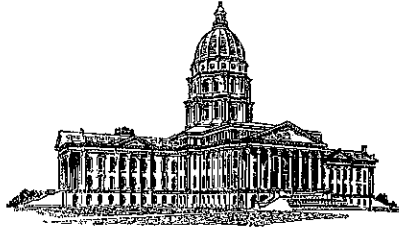


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2927 CLIFF PLACE
GARDEN CITY, KANSAS 67846



JOHN DOLL
39TH DISTRICT

To: Senate Committee on Transportation, Senator Mike Petersen, Chairman
From: Senator John Doll
Date: February 5, 2020
Re: SB 267- classifying violation of the secured loads statute as a traffic infraction

Chairman Petersen and Members of the Committee, thank you for conducting a hearing on SB 267. This is an issue that has arisen in my district in the past year. Some farmers were receiving citations for unsecured loads during silage harvest. It is my understanding that these citations were considered misdemeanor offenses under our criminal code. SB 267 attempts to remedy that situation by clarifying that violations of K.S.A. 8-1906 will be considered traffic infractions.

Harvest time in my district is a time when my constituents are working hard to get their crops harvested at the appropriate time. Silage harvest specifically is a time when many tons of forage is transported in a short period of time in order to properly ensile the crop at the proper moisture content. During hot, dry summer and early fall days, the moisture content can decrease rapidly. Farmers are working hard to attempt to secure their loads to the best of their ability during harvest; however, when they are unable to do so, being charged with a misdemeanor is an aggressive penalty for the infraction that they may have committed.

As stated before, this bill is attempting to clarify that a violation of 8-1906 shall be treated as a traffic infraction. I look forward to working with all interested parties to ensure that we have the proper treatment of the situation faced by my constituents during harvest. I encourage you to support SB 267.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Senator John Doll