

To: House Agriculture Committee, Representative Ken Rahjes, Chairperson

From: John Donley, Kansas Farm Bureau

Date: March 14, 2021

Re: SB 89 - exempting the transport of agricultural forage commodities

Chairman Rahjes and Members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to present written testimony on behalf of the Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) in support of SB 89. KFB is the state's largest general farm organization representing more than 30,000 farm and ranch families through our 105 county Farm Bureau Associations.

Kansas farmers and ranchers harvest opportunities are weather dependent and the ability to move agricultural production efficiently at the optimal time is key to their business success. Generally, Kansas farmers and ranchers ensure that their loads are secured when going to market. However, there are exceptions when time is of the essence in order to harvest their crops effectively and economically, specifically as it relates to certain forage commodities, such as silage. This bill attempts to remedy situations where a person may be hauling forage commodities in an unsecured manner.

Simply put, SB 89 exempts the transporting an unsecured load of silage on Kansas roadways while harvesting. KFB feels that this is an adequate solution to a select issue that some Kansas farmers and ranchers face. We ask for your support of SB 89 through the legislative process.

Thank you for your time and attention to this issue.