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**SEWARD COUNTY SALES TAX REQUEST
TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE TAXATION COMMITTEE
ON NEEDS IN ROAD & BRIDGE
SCOTT CARR, SEWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER
JANUARY 21, 2025**

Chairman Smith and Members of the House Taxation Committee,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify on behalf of Seward County Kansas, in regards to our request for a half cent sales tax to help with the needs we have identified in Road & Bridge.

Seward County's main drivers for this ask in the increase in truck traffic we are experiencing. The dairy expansions, feeder operations, and ethanol plant contribute to this high volume of truck traffic.

The large dairy on the Meade County/Seward County line has doubled in size to supply Hilmar in Dodge City. In doing so, they have doubled their feed requirements. Seward County has a significant increase in traffic when harvesting of the silage starts. Instead of 25 loads of dry grain from a 120-acre circle, you have 100-125 loads of silage from a circle. They are harvesting in the Spring now as well, which is a change for our area.

The ethanol plant not only hauls in millions of bushels of grain, they haul it out as distiller grain for the feeder operations. There are many other sources of truck traffic as well; milk transport, cotton, feed cattle, etc.

I ask the Taxation Committee to please consider passing HB2004 allowing Seward County to go to our community and rural residents for their consideration in voting for a half cent sales tax to help with the cost of repairing, maintaining, and sustaining our roadways in Seward County.

Best Regards,

Scott Carr
Seward County Commissioner