

Kansas Grain and Feed Association

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February 11, 2025

To: House Committee on Transportation

From: Sage Toews, KSU Fellow with Kansas Grain and Feed Association

Re: Proponent Testimony on House Bill 2201, providing for a distinctive FFA license plate.

Chairperson Francis and members of the Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2201. This testimony is submitted on behalf of the Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA).

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership includes over 950 Kansas business locations and represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state.

KGFA supports the mission of the Kansas FFA Association and is an annual sponsor of the program.

FFA is a youth leadership organization that engages students in hands-on learning, leadership development, and career exploration within the food and agriculture industry. Through activities like food and animal evaluation, agribusiness competitions, and leadership development, FFA inspires young people to pursue careers in agriculture systems. In Kansas, where agriculture is vital to communities, FFA plays a crucial role in sustaining the industry by developing leaders who will drive innovation in the production of agricultural goods.

Since its founding in 1928, FFA has expanded from a small group of farm boys to over 1,000,000 members nationwide. As agriculture has evolved, FFA has provided diverse opportunities, attracting students with both rural and urban backgrounds who are passionate about shaping the future of food and agriculture.

As a past member of Kansas FFA, I am a beneficiary of the growth catalyzed by the organization. I practice skills gained in FFA daily and hold on to the attitude of service reflected in the FFA motto that ends with "Living to Serve." Because of my experiences in FFA, I am eager to work alongside agriculturalists who serve others by contributing to the production of their food, fuel, and fiber.

House Bill 2201 would provide for a distinctive vehicle license plate for Kansas FFA.

Having a distinctive FFA license plate promotes the program by increasing awareness and support for agricultural education. It would spark conversations about FFA's impact on agriculture. By displaying these plates, FFA members, alumni, and supporters can advocate for the future of food and agriculture and encourage more students to get involved.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2201. We respectfully request that the committee pass the bill out favorably.