

February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025

To: The Honorable Shannon Francis, Chairman, Kansas House Transportation Committee  
From: Ms. Laura E. Miller, Kansas Association of Agricultural Educators President  
Subject: Support for HB2201 Specialty License Plate Promoting Agriculture Education and FFA

Dear Chairman Francis,

On behalf of the 300 instructors and FFA advisors of the Kansas Association of Agricultural Educators, I am excited to endorse and support HB2201. This bill will help the Kansas FFA receive its specialty license plate, allowing supporters to proudly showcase their commitment to agricultural education.

As you know, Agriculture is crucial to Kansas's economy and identity. This plate allows individuals from all backgrounds to support and celebrate the industry. FFA chapters are found in all corners of Kansas, including our largest cities. Currently, there are 232 FFA Chapters in 103 counties. State membership is 13,641. In the past decade, our membership and number of chapters have surged more than 30%. Passing this bill will not only encourage rural and urban engagement but will help raise awareness of FFA's impact in Kansas.

The Kansas FFA Foundation supports students in developing leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. My students have personally benefitted from the Foundation's programming. They have been able to attend leadership conferences, receive their official FFA jacket, and support their Supervised Agricultural Experience programs thanks to the funding offered through the Kansas FFA Foundation. Revenue from the specialty plate will go towards supporting FFA's mission, enhancing scholarships, leadership programs, and FFA chapter activities, and providing much-needed resources for the organization to help continue our efforts in workforce development. This is vitally important as more students and chapters demand the Foundation's programming, yet their operational budget has remained relatively flat.

Finally, Agriculture is the backbone of Kansas's economy, generating billions in revenue and supporting thousands of jobs. The industry needs a strong and well-prepared workforce to meet growing demands. Kansas FFA plays a crucial role in training future leaders in agriculture, agribusiness, and related fields. Therefore, the specialty plate addresses workforce needs and supports Kansas' largest economic driver.

I do not doubt that allowing Kansas FFA its only specialty plate will benefit our state and student organization. When asked if you should pass HB2201, I can only think of 'yes!'

I appreciate your consideration and support of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura E. Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Laura" being the most prominent part.

Laura E. Miller

Ag Ed Instructor/FFA Advisor

Kansas Association of Agricultural Educators President