



**KANSAS**  
ASSOCIATION OF  
**COUNTIES**

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Senate Transportation Committee  
January 29, 2025  
SB 17

Kansas Association of Counties  
Opponent Testimony – Written Only

Chairman Petersen and members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Association of Counties to offer opponent testimony on SB 17, which would create an exception to weight and load limits for haulers of grain and other agricultural goods.

Counties in Kansas are required by statute to maintain roads and bridges within the county. In Kansas, there are about 140,000 center line miles of public roads. Kansas Counties maintain over 113,000 center line miles of road in Kansas. 87% of the county roads are unpaved.

Heavier loads on roads cause the roads to degrade more quickly, which drives up maintenance costs. This is particularly important given that the motor fuels tax revenues have remained relatively flat over the last several years.

FY 2019	156.6						
FY 2020	157.2						
FY 2021	155.8						
FY 2022	156.8						
FY 2023	155.7						
FY 2024	155.1						
Amounts are Millions.							
Transfer of \$12.5 from the SHF in FY 2021 but paid in FY 2022 to cities and counties to make for reduced travel during COVID							

At a time when counties are trying to manage property taxes to avoid placing additional burden on county property taxpayers, passing a bill that will create a need for more maintenance will force counties to spend more on the road and bridge budget from local property taxes, increasing the tax burden on taxpayers.

For these reasons, KAC would ask that the committee not advance SB 17. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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