



Kansas Association of Wheat Growers

1990 Kimball Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502

January 28, 2025

To: Senate Committee on Transportation

From: Shayna DeGroot, Director of Membership and Government Affairs

Re: Proponent Testimony on Senate Bill 17; exempting haulers of grain and certain other agricultural goods from gross weight limitations for vehicles.

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Thank you, Chairman Peterson and members of the committee, for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 17. This testimony is submitted on behalf of the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers. The Kansas Association of Wheat Growers is a member-governed organization representing wheat growers in planning legislation, advising government and international agencies on matters affecting wheat and providing grass-roots leadership to the U.S. wheat industry.

During harvest, farmers face many challenges, one of those being limited time frames to deliver grain to elevators and on-farm storage. Many factors can lead to this, including weather conditions and shortage of help during harvest. No farmer can control the weather, and many farmers struggle to find seasonal help during harvest.

Senate Bill 17 would provide a limited, harvest-time truck weight waiver for delivering grain from field to storage. This new language would give farmers more flexibility when moving grain, while also giving some grace on loading a truck too heavy. A lot of small farmers do not have scales on their trucks as they are expensive, and they have to estimate weight when loading their truck. Trucks weights can fluctuate with each load due to moisture content, which can make it very difficult for the farmer to estimate how heavy their load is.

Senate Bill 17 would help dissipate the burden of truck weight to farmers by granting a limited weight waiver for trucks transporting seasonally harvested products, from the field to storage or market up to 50 miles during harvest.

Senate Bill 17 would help farmers more efficiently move grain during harvest, one of farmers' busiest, and most stressful times of the year, and for that reason, we support the bill.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 17.