



Kansas Motor Carriers Association

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Written Neutral Testimony
to
Senate Transportation Committee
by the
Kansas Motor Carriers Association
Wednesday, January 29, 2025

Chairman Petersen and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association (KMCA), thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 17. KMCA is the trade association representing over 600 member companies in Kansas's trucking and transportation industries.

As proposed, the Senate Bill 17 addresses exemptions to gross weight limitations for vehicles transporting agricultural goods, such as grain, during harvest seasons. KMCA recognizes the importance of supporting Kansas's agriculture industry and acknowledge the potential benefits this legislation may bring to agricultural producers, facilitating the timely and efficient transport of goods during critical harvest periods. However, we also wish to highlight considerations related to road wear and tear, highway safety, and operational consistency for motor carriers operating under varying weight limits.

Kansas has previously enacted legislation establishing a special annual permit for certain heavy agriculture-related divisible loads. This permit allows a gross vehicle weight (GVW) of 90,000 lbs. on highways other than the interstate system, provided the weight is distributed over six-axles. This marked an increase from the previous max limit of 85,500 lbs. GVW distributed over five-axles. Additionally, the legislation expanded the application of the "Federal Bridge Formula" to accommodate the increased weight. The "Federal Bridge Formula" ensures that vehicle weight is distributed across a specific number of axles spaced appropriately to minimize wear on roads and bridges.

KMCA remains committed to ensuring fair and balanced policies that benefit Kansas industries while protecting the interests of all roadway users. We respectfully encourage the Committee to carefully evaluate the long-term implications of the proposed changes, including their impact on infrastructure and road safety.

We thank the Committee for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Travis Grauerholz

Kansas Motor Carriers Association