



KANSAS FFA ASSOCIATION

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February 27, 2025

**Senate Committee on Transportation
Informational Hearing
Senator Mike Petersen, Chair**

Informational testimony in support of Kansas FFA Distinctive License Plate (HB2201)

Greetings Senator Petersen and members of the Transportation Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Kansas FFA distinctive license plate (HB2201). This legislation isn't just about adding another specialty plate, it's about investing in the success of young people across Kansas. FFA is an organization that welcomes anyone, regardless of background or future career path, and provides opportunities that shape students into strong, capable leaders.

FFA is often associated with agriculture, but its impact reaches far beyond that. It is leadership. It is service. It is opportunity. As a Kansas FFA State Officer, I have witnessed students from all walks of life step into this organization and discover their potential. Whether they dream of becoming farmers, veterinarians, business owners, engineers, or public speakers, FFA equips them with the skills, confidence, and connections to lead successful lives and careers. The foundation for this growth lies in the school based agricultural education model, which blends Classroom/Lab learning, hands-on workplace experiences through Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE), and FFA Involvement. These three components work together to prepare students for real-world challenges and situations. Our dedicated teachers play a crucial role, guiding students through each of these areas, ensuring they not only learn but thrive in a wide range of fields.

Passing this bill would create a sustainable way to invest in youth success, something that benefits not just FFA members, but entire communities. Other states, such as Missouri and Oklahoma, have successfully implemented FFA specialty plates, using the funds to provide scholarships, leadership training, and hands-on learning experiences within classrooms. Kansas should do the same.

In fact, Kansas FFA's largest chapter isn't in a rural town, it's at Wichita Southeast High School, located in our state's largest city, with more than 400 members. This shows that FFA is not just for students in rural areas. It is for students from cities, suburbs, and small towns alike. The Kansas FFA license plate would allow supporters to proudly showcase the impact of this organization while directly funding opportunities that change students' lives.

Some may question whether adding another specialty plate is necessary. The answer is simple; if people believe in an organization, they should have the opportunity to support it.

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The FFA Mission

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success** through agricultural education.



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Kansas FFA has over 13,700 high school members, and thousands more alumni, educators, and supporters who would proudly display this plate. The revenue generated would directly fund opportunities that help students become leaders in their schools, communities, and future careers.

I urge you to support the Kansas FFA distinctive license plate (HB2201), not just for the organization, but for the students it serves. FFA is shaping the next generation of leaders, problem-solvers, and innovators. The lessons learned and experiences gained in this organization don't just benefit members today; they lay the foundation for a stronger future. In FFA, we often talk about *planting seeds for trees whose shade we may never sit under*; investing in something that will outlive us, knowing it will provide opportunities for those who come after. This bill ensures that more young people, from all backgrounds and career paths, have access to experiences that will prepare them for success.

Sincerely,

Natalee Bray
Kansas FFA State Sentinel

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