



COUNSELOR'S OFFICE

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March 6, 2012

The Honorable Larry Powell, Chairman  
House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources  
Docking State Office Building, Rm. 783  
Topeka, KS 66612

Re: S.B. 357

Dear Chairman Powell and Members of the Committee:

I am the lawyer representing the Board of Riley County Commissioners. On behalf of the Board of Riley County Commissioners, I would like to offer my support of S.B.357.

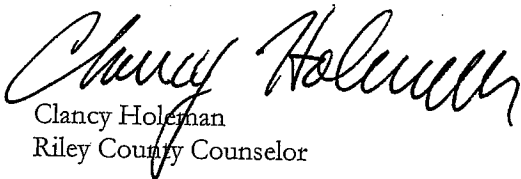
The original of S.B. 357 was created by the collective work of Riley County, the Kansas Association of Counties and Kansas Farm Bureau. The Kansas Livestock Association afterward approached us with proposals for changes to the text. We representatives of those groups met and developed the version of the bill. It was thereafter amended in committee, and we all continue to support the bill.

The attached revision represents a significant improvement to a series of statutes enacted in the "dirty thirties." Under our proposed revisions, county commissioners across the state will retain their authority to address blowing dust whenever it represents a threat to public safety. All other complaints involving less serious situations will be first vetted by the local soil conservation district. Local agricultural producers will be given the opportunity to evaluate the complaint and make a recommendation to the board of county commissioners. But commissioners will still have the final say about any necessary remedies. Those remedies will be drawn from a recognized and established authority.

In my client's view, S.B. 357 represents a significant improvement in the existing statutory scheme.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of S.B. 357.

Sincerely,

  
Clancy Holzman  
Riley County Counselor

cc: Board of Riley County Commissioners

House Ag. & Natural Resources  
March 6, 2012  
Attachment 2