Session of 2012

## **Senate Resolution No. 1806**

By Committee on Transportation

1-26

A RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress to repeal 23 U.S.C. § 127(d) concerning give Kansas an exemption to the federal freeze on more productive trucks and allow Kansas to determine the appropriate vehicle size and weight limits necessary for the economic needs of the state.

WHEREAS, The United States Congress approved 23 U.S.C. § 127(d) on June 1, 1991, which froze the truck size and weight limits to those weights and lengths that were being operated at such time; and

WHEREAS, Operation of more productive vehicles has been frozen by federal law for 20 years; and

WHEREAS, The custom harvesting industry requested that the legislature approve additional length for their combination vehicles and were informed of the federal freeze and the potential loss of federal highway funds to Kansas should the freeze be violated; and

WHEREAS, States should have the flexibility to adopt vehicle size and weight laws necessary for the economic growth for the state and region; and

WHEREAS, The custom harvesting industry contributes to feeding this country and to the United States' energy independence by efficiently and effectively harvesting a variety of crops both for food and fuel; and

WHEREAS, The Western Governors' Association has approved a policy resolution urging Congress to lift the freeze on more productive-trucks for the 13 western states: Kansas, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska has received a similar exemption to allow custom harvesters to transport their machinery; and

WHEREAS, Any change in vehicle size and weight laws must be adopted by both the Kansas House of Representatives and Kansas Senate and approved by the Governor: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas: That we urge the United States Congress to repeal 23 U.S.C. § 127(d) and eliminate give Kansas an exemption to the freeze on more productive trucks, thereby allowing Kansas to respond to new technology and new vehicle size and weight requirements; and

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1 Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate shall send an 2 enrolled copy of this resolution to the United States secretary of 3 transportation and each member of the Kansas congressional delegation.