

**To: Senate Committee on Transportation**  
**From: Gary Feist, CEO at Southern Kansas Cotton Cooperative Association**  
**RE: Proponent, Oral Testimony on HB 2160**

Thank you for allowing me to comment in support of House Bill 2160 from a ginner's point of view. A few issues I'd like to talk about:

1. Drivers can be put at safety risk when taking off the straps on the cotton bales. If the fork or loader malfunctions, the bales weight 500k lbs and can cause injury.
2. Drivers mark the bales as they re staged with the account number and module number.
3. During harvest season, we unload over 100 trucks per day during daylight hours.
4. In all my time ginning since 1998, I have never seen or heard of a bale lost off a truck that was single layered. I have made it a rule at the SKCCA gin that double stacked bales must be strapped.

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