



**Kansas Grain and Feed Association | Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
Renew Kansas Biofuels Association | Kansas Cooperative Council | Kansas Wheat
Kansas Soybean Association | Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association
Kansas Corn Growers Association**

To: Senate Committee on Transportation
From: Randy Stookey, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, KGFA, KARA, Renew Kansas
Date: February 5, 2020
RE: **Joint Proponent Written Testimony on SB 267, clarifying that a violation of the statute requiring secured vehicle loads is a traffic infraction.**

Chairman Petersen and members of the Committee on Transportation, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 267. This testimony is jointly-submitted by the following: Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA), Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA), Renew Kansas Biofuels Association (Renew Kansas), and Kansas Cooperative Council (KCC). Others joining in this testimony include Kansas Soybean Association (KSA), Kansas Wheat, Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers Association (KGSPA), and Kansas Corn Growers Association (KCGA).

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership includes over 950 Kansas business locations and 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in Kansas. KARA is an agribusiness industry trade association with membership of over 700 companies across Kansas. Renew Kansas is the trade association of the Kansas biofuels processing industry. KCC represents cooperatively structured businesses including agriculture marketing and supply, utility, financial and consumer cooperatives.

KSA represents Kansas soybean farmers on legislative and regulatory issues. Kansas Wheat represents Kansas wheat farmers on legislative and regulatory issues. KGSPA represents Kansas farmers of grain sorghum on legislative and regulatory issues. KCGA represents Kansas corn farmers on legislative and regulatory issues. Members of the above-named organizations are involved in the commercial transport of agricultural grain commodities.

We understand the intent of Senate Bill 267 is to clarify that a violation for failure to securely tarp or cover a load of grain should be cited as a traffic infraction, rather than as a misdemeanor. We would agree that a violation for failing to securely cover a load of grain would be more appropriately cited as a traffic infraction, and should not be cited as the (higher) category of a misdemeanor driving offense.

Such misdemeanor designations are inappropriate for this type of infraction, and in some instances, have caused confusion and frustration for drivers who may have to return to the area in order to appear before a municipal court. Senate Bill 267 is a reasonable measure that represents sound public policy.

Thank you for allowing our organizations the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 267. We respectfully request that the committee pass the bill out favorably.