

**Date: March 19, 2024**

**Re: HCR 5026- Written Proponent**

**To: House Agriculture and Natural Resources, Chairman Rahjes**

**From: Claudia Hissong, Kansas Farm Bureau**

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Chairman Rahjes and members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to provide written proponent testimony on HCR 5026. My name is Claudia Hissong, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) members. KFB is the state's largest general farm organization representing more than 30,000 farm and ranch families through our 105 county Farm Bureau Associations.

We appreciate the Kansas legislature considering support for the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act. On December 18, 2023, the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) joined other agriculture organizations to send a letter expressing support for the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act.

Several automakers announced they have removed or plan to remove broadcast AM radio receivers from electric vehicles (EVs) due to electromagnetic interference generated from electric batteries. Most notably, in April of last year, Ford announced it would not include AM radio in any of its new models beginning in 2024. However, after Congressional backlash, Ford reversed its decision and will include it on all 2024 Ford & Lincoln vehicles.

Congress then introduced the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act that would direct the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to issue a rule that requires automakers to maintain AM broadcast radio in their vehicles without a separate or additional payment, fee, or surcharge beyond the base price of the device; disclose to consumers when vehicles lack the ability to access the AM broadcast radio and directs the Governmental Accountability Office to study the reach and effectiveness of AM broadcast radio for alerting the public to emergencies relative to other technologies.

Farm Bureau members often rely on AM radio for broadcasting and emergency reports. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HCR 5026 to express support for the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act.