



February 13, 2021

Rita Hartman,
Atchison Farmers' Market
593 Johnson Rd, Nortonville, KS 66060 (Official AFM Address)
SB 76 – Testimony For Chairwoman Tyson

Dear Chairwoman Tyson and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to voice support for a bill which will lower sales tax on food in Kansas: SB 76 to stair step reductions in the food sales tax to 3.5% in 2021.

As the president of the Atchison Farmers' Market board, I/we support and urge Committee support for this bill.

The Atchison Farmers' Market (AFM) has been in existence for over 20 years. Our mission has always been to provide local produce to the citizens of our area, while supporting local agriculture.

For several years we have participated in the Kansas Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program and the Double Up program for SNAP recipients. Atchison and its surrounding area has a high level of low income families, including senior citizens and farm families, working in relatively low income jobs. AFM works with Live Well, Live Atchison to improve the nutrition level of those in our community. Food, being an essential purchase, should have a lower tax rate than other purchases or NOT be taxed at all. It should be noted that Kansans living close to the border are "encouraged" to purchase food in the bordering states, which have little or no sales tax on food.

Therefore, I/we support passage of SB 76 legislation that would lower sales tax on food as soon as possible for the people of Kansas.

Sincerely,
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