

**To: House Financial Institutions and Rural Development Committee, Representative Jim Kelly,
Chairperson**

From: John Donley, Kansas Farm Bureau

Date: February 17, 2021

Re: HB 2282 – Enacting the Kansas agricultural loan guarantee program

Chairman Kelly and members of the committee, I appreciate the opportunity to present written testimony on behalf of the Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) in support of HB 2282. 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.

As many of you know, the agricultural economy has been a struggle over the past few years. While it appears that commodity prices may be rebounding, there is still a lot of uncertainty in the future profitability of agriculture. With reduced profitability comes additional stresses to secure adequate capital to continue to run agricultural operations. Generally, we are supportive of additional financing options for viable agricultural operations. While the concept in this bill is a new policy for the state, Kansas Farm Bureau believes it could provide a viable option for some farmers.

While generally our policy is supportive of expanding programs specifically for beginning farmers and ranchers, we feel that this bill would be a potential option for a beginning farmer or rancher when looking to finance their operation. Therefore, we are supportive of HB 2282. Thank you for your time and attention to this bill.