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6800 W. 93<sup>rd</sup> Street | Overland Park, KS 66212 www.heart.org

## Testimony in Support of SB 314 26 January 2016

Mr. Chairman and member of the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 314. The American Heart Association is committed to building healthier lives free of cardiovascular disease and stroke. Our approach to this goal is multi-faceted and access to and consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables is a key component of our efforts.

Over the past year the Local Food and Farm Task Force has met on numerous occasions and gathered input from stakeholders throughout the state. This work led to a set of recommendations they recently presented to the legislature. They should be applauded for their hard work and their great recommendations.

As they conducted their work it became increasingly clear that the more they dug into the issues before them the more opportunities they uncovered for Kansas. These opportunities include economic growth for the State, enhanced opportunities for our farming and ranching sector and great opportunities to connect Kansans with locally grown and produced goods supporting healthy diets. These outcomes are truly a win-win for Kansas and Kansans.

We believe the Task Force should be allowed to continue their great work and encourage you to support SB 314.

Kevin M. Walker Regional Vice President of Advocacy American Heart Association





