



Kansas Grain & Feed Association
Kansas Cooperative Council
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association

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Jan. 26, 2016

TO: Senate Committee on Transportation

From: Leslie Kaufman
Kansas Cooperative Council (KCC)

Randy Stookey
Kansas Grain and Feed Assoc. (KGFA)
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Assoc. (KARA)

RE: Support for SB 349 – Haz mat endorsement exemption for hauling 1000 gallons or less of diesel fuel on a commercial class A license

Thank you, Chairman Peterson and members of the Senate Committee on Transportation, for the opportunity to share our support for SB 349. I am Leslie Kaufman and I serve as the President/CEO of the Kansas Cooperative Council (KCC) and I am here today on behalf of our members and our agribusiness partners, the Kansas Grain and Feed Association and the Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association.

The KCC represents all types of cooperative businesses in Kansas including agriculture marketing and supply, utilities, financial and insurance/risk management co-ops and consumer cooperatives. KGFA is a voluntary trade association with a membership encompassing the entire spectrum of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in the state of Kansas. KARA is a voluntary trade association whose membership includes over 700 agribusiness firms that are primarily retail facilities supplying fertilizers, crop protection chemicals, and seed to Kansas farmers.

Senate Bill 349 will align Kansas transportation law with recent changes made at the federal level. We are pleased to have consulted with Senator Roberts' staff when he first introduced the exemption from hazardous material endorsement for hauling 1000 gallons or less of diesel fuel on a commercial class A license. It has been a long road, but fortunately the provision was approved. We think this will provide increased staffing flexibility for our members when they make daily task assignments and we encourage this committee to advance SB 349 favorably and bring Kansas into alignment with the federal change.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to speak in favor of this measure. I would stand for questions at the appropriate time.