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February 11, 2025

The Honorable Shannon Francis
Chairman, Kansas House Transportation Committee
Kansas State Capitol
300 SW 10th Ave
Topeka, KS 66612

Subject: Support for Specialty License Plate Promoting Agriculture Education and FFA

Dear Chairman Francis,

On behalf of the Kansas FFA Foundation, I am pleased to express my strong support for the proposed specialty license plate promoting agricultural education and the Kansas FFA. As a former FFA member and a proud recipient of the Star Farmer of Kansas award, I have experienced the profound impact that FFA can have on young people, shaping their leadership skills, work ethic, and commitment to the agricultural industry.

The proceeds from this specialty license plate will benefit the Kansas FFA Foundation, allowing us to expand resources and provide enhanced support for agriculture students and FFA members across the state. These funds will be instrumental in offering scholarships, leadership development opportunities, and educational programs that equip young people with the skills and knowledge needed to sustain and advance Kansas' agricultural industry.

Beyond financial support, this specialty plate will also increase visibility for the Kansas FFA, an organization deeply rooted in our state. With 237 chapters in 103 of Kansas' 105 counties and nearly 14,000 members, FFA plays a vital role in developing future leaders in agriculture. By making this specialty plate available, we celebrate our state's strong agricultural heritage and bring greater awareness to an organization that continues to shape and inspire the next generation.

Agriculture remains a fundamental pillar of our state's economy and identity. By supporting this specialty plate, we invest in its future by ensuring students have access to the education, training, and leadership opportunities necessary for success.

I respectfully urge the committee's support for this initiative and appreciate your consideration in making it a reality. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I can provide any additional information or assistance.

Sincerely,

Mike Smith

Chairman, Kansas FFA Foundation
Former FFA Member & Star Farmer of Kansas