




## Kansas Association of Agricultural Educators

<p><b>President</b> Laura Miller</p> <p><b>President-Elect</b> Mary Beth Fulk</p> <p><b>Past President</b> Kasie Bogart</p> <p><b>Exec. Secretary</b> Carmelita Goossen</p> <p><b>Exec. Treasurer</b> Jed Strnad</p> <p><b>Membership Director</b> Laura Bina</p> <p><b>Teacher Success Coordinators</b> KSU Ag Ed Faculty</p> <p><b>In-Service Coordinator</b> Lacie Harshbarger</p> <p><b>East Central Dist. VP</b> Alicia Hampton</p> <p><b>Northeast Dist. VP</b> Matthew Anguiano</p> <p><b>North Central Dist. VP</b> Jacob Rutledge</p> <p><b>Northwest Dist. VP</b> Janet Gottstine</p> <p><b>South Central Dist. VP</b> Corineah Williams</p> <p><b>Southeast Dist. VP</b> Scott Sutton</p> <p><b>Southwest Dist. VP</b> Kelly Sipes</p>	<p>March 1st, 2025</p> <p>To: Senator Mike Peterson, Chair, Kansas Senate Transportation Committee From: Ms. Laura E. Miller, President, Kansas Association of Agricultural Educators Subject: Support for HB2201 Specialty License Plate Promoting Agriculture Education &amp; FFA</p> <p>Dear Chairman Peterson,</p> <p>On behalf of the 300 instructors and FFA advisors from the Kansas Association of Agricultural Educators, I am excited to endorse and support HB2201. This bill will enable the Kansas FFA to receive its specialty license plate, allowing supporters to display their commitment to agricultural education proudly.</p> <p>As you know, agriculture is vital to Kansas's economy and identity. This plate allows individuals from all walks of life to support and celebrate our industry. FFA chapters are present throughout Kansas, including in our largest cities. There are 232 FFA chapters across 103 counties, with a state membership of 13,641. Over the past decade, our membership and number of chapters have surged by more than 30%. This bill will foster engagement between rural and urban communities and increase awareness of FFA's impact in Kansas.</p> <p>The Kansas FFA Foundation aids students in developing leadership skills, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. My students have personally benefited from the Foundation's programs. They have had the chance to attend leadership conferences, receive their official FFA jacket, and support their Supervised Agricultural Experience programs, all thanks to the funding provided by the Kansas FFA Foundation. Revenue from the specialty plate will support FFA's mission, enhance scholarships, leadership programs, and chapter activities, and provide essential resources for the organization, enabling us to continue our workforce development efforts. This is critical as the demand for the Foundation's programming grows while its operational budget remains flat.</p> <p>Furthermore, agriculture is the backbone of Kansas's economy, generating billions in revenue and supporting thousands of jobs. The industry requires a strong and well-prepared workforce to meet increasing demands. Kansas FFA plays a key role in training future leaders in agriculture, agribusiness, and related fields. Therefore, the specialty plate addresses workforce needs and supports Kansas's largest economic driver.</p> <p>I am confident that granting Kansas FFA its sole specialty plate will benefit our state and student organization. When considering whether to support HB2201, I can only respond with one answer: 'Yes!'</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration and support of this bill.</p> <p>Sincerely,    Laura E. Miller  Ag Ed Instructor/FFA Advisor  President, Kansas Association of Agricultural Educators</p>
---	--