

February 10, 2015

Chairman Mike Petersen
Senate Transportation Committee
Kansas Capitol
Topeka, KS 66612

Chairman Petersen:

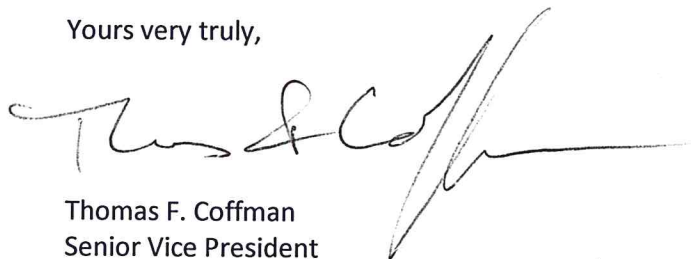
Please accept this letter as Deffenbaugh Industries Inc.'s support of passage of SB 94.

This bill would provide important workplace safety protections for thousands of Kansas workers who operate daily across the state. According to a September, 2014 report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, trash, recycling and yard waste collection was the sixth-most dangerous occupation in the United States. More solid waste employees are injured or killed on the job each year than police officers and firefighters.

Like most haulers, Deffenbaugh Industries is all too familiar with the hazards of waste collection. Deffenbaugh operates hundreds of trucks and collects from hundreds of thousands of customers weekly on residential streets, rural roads and major arterials. Sadly, the company lost many employees to major injuries and several to fatality accidents during its 55 years in business, typically because of careless or aggressive motorists.

Deffenbaugh shares the industry's strong support of SB 94 and the protections that the bill would offer waste collectors.

Yours very truly,



Thomas F. Coffman
Senior Vice President
Deffenbaugh Industries Inc.