Greenwood County Fair Assn. 311 N. Main, Suite 6 Eureka, KS 67045



February 3, 2017

Representative John Barker Chairman Federal and State Affairs Committee

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Greenwood County has been horse racing since 1872. With the current economic and financial struggles within our great state of Kansas, I urge you to consider the Greenwood County Fair Association's strong support of HB 2173. This bill will economically benefit the agricultural sector of Greenwood County and the surrounding area. According to a recent study completed by Wichita State University's Center for Economic Development and Research, many rural counties are forecasted to have a declining population. Greenwood County is predicted to lose a total of 59.3-94.2% decline in population from 2014-2064. When Eureka Downs was in operation, the population grew, and Eureka Downs can revive Greenwood County and those surrounding us as well.

Support of this legislation will benefit the agricultural and rural sectors of Kansas that need revenue to support our community. Greenwood County has a per capita income of \$21,325 which is the bottom third of the state from a rating standpoint. By letting House Bill 2173 out of committee, and having it passed, our community and surrounding counties will create more jobs and rural business.

Sincerely,

President

Greenwood County Fair Association