

## **Decatur Road & Bridge**

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**From:** stanley.mcevoy <stanley.mcevoy@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 15, 2021 10:42 AM  
**To:** Decatur Road & Bridge  
**Subject:** FW: support of amendment House Bill 2295

Sent from my Galaxy

----- Original message -----

**From:** Sheridan County Road & Bridge <scrb@ruraltel.net>  
**Date:** 2/15/21 10:38 AM (GMT-06:00)  
**To:** stanley.mcevoy@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** support of amendment House Bill 2295

I am writing this email to represent Sheridan County Road & Bridge Department in Hoxie KS. Myself Joseph Herskowitz-Supervisor, Foreman Nick Kane, and Foreman Rex Storer would like to take this time to say we are in full support of the amendment which would NOT require a CDL to operate a motor grader. We live in a small rural area that makes it very difficult to hire guys with CDL and now it seems speaking for our county, we are having problems just to get applications at all for open positions. We have face a few times that we train guys to go get their CDL and when they feel ready to take the test, we send them 30 minutes to nearest DMV. We had one employee had to go back twice before he passed his written test which you must pass before getting a permit to be able to drive with another CDL drive. After he had some driving time in on his permit, it took 3 times of driving back to the DMV for him to pass the driving test. We have had others that pass first time with flying colors but others it takes a few times which I feel its not the person but other than the CDL testing is not the easiest. Long story short if we are not subject to having CDL's to operate motor graders we and others could save time and money sending employees to obtain their CDL's. We have a policy that within 6 months of employment all employees must have a CDL with help of our company to obtain it. A past experience we had with an employee was they were on medication for schizophrenia. This employee did a very good job at operating a motor grader but he came to us and felt he didn't want to chance putting a higher risk of something happening if he was to be driving a semi and something happen. This at the time not knowing of the CDL to operate a motor grader was a way to keep this employee employed. After employees obtain their CDL they are given a pretty good raise and this employee was more than willing to give up a wage increase to prevent a possible accident from happening but also keeping his job. We have found with the struggle of



getting people with CDLs to apply has turned our company to contract gravel hauling because we have to keep our CDL employees in motor graders. Making it not a requirement to hold a CDL would benefit not only our county but several surrounding and i would about bet many others throughout Kansas be able to hire more applicants easier without the down fall of the applicant not having a CDL or not being able to obtain for whatever purpose. We hope there will be enough support to make this change and help many departments hiring process a lot easier. Thank you for your time.

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Joseph Herskowitz Sheridan County Road & Bridge Supervisor

Nick Kane-Foreman

Rex Storer-Foreman