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LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY

BY THE

KANSAS MOTOR CARRIERS ASSOCIATION

In support of Senate Bill No. 147

Presented to the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee Representative Sharon Schwartz, Chairman Thursday, March 14, 2013

MADAM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

I am Tom Whitaker, executive director of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association. I appear before you this morning representing our 1,000 member companies and specifically those that transport anhydrous ammonia in certified and inspected cargo tanks with a capacity in excess of 3,500 water gallons.

SB 147 requires owners of anhydrous ammonia tanks to have a fill permit from the Kansas Department of Agriculture. KMCA requested an amendment to the bill which removed motor carriers transporting anhydrous ammonia in tanks with a capacity 3,500 water gallons from the KDA permit requirements. The Senate amended the bill as KMCA requested.

Currently motor carriers transporting anhydrous ammonia are required by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) to use a specific type of cargo tank known as a MC331. In addition, motor carriers operating this equipment must maintain liability insurance in the amount of \$5,000,000, have a Hazardous Materials Safety Permit issued by FMCSA, maintain a "satisfactory" safety rating from FMCSA, annually perform an external and internal inspection of the cargo tank, and every two years perform a hydrostatic test.

KMCA respectfully requests the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee retain the Senate amendment requested by KMCA and pass the bill favorably. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I would be pleased to respond to any questions the Committee may have.