



**Kansas Grain and Feed Association
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
Renew Kansas Association**
816 SW Tyler, Topeka, Kansas 66612 | 785.234.0461

March 14, 2019

To: House Committee on Taxation
From: Randy E. Stookey, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs
RE: **Joint neutral testimony and proposing an amendment on HB 2371, providing for an increase in permit fees for oversized or overweight vehicles.**

Chairman Johnson and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 2371. This testimony is submitted jointly on behalf of the Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA), the Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA), and Renew Kansas Association.

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership includes over 950 Kansas business locations and represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state. KARA is an agribusiness industry trade association with membership of over 700 companies across Kansas. Renew Kansas Association is the trade association of the ethanol and biofuels industry in Kansas. Members of these associations are heavily engaged in the transportation of various agricultural products.

House Bill 2371 would increase various permit fees on oversized or overweight vehicles beginning July 1, 2020. Most of the permits included in this bill would not have a broad effect on our members. For that reason, we appear as neutral conferees on this bill.

However, the legislature recently approved a special overweight permit for the transport of agricultural products. The annual fee for that special permit was set at \$200.

This bill proposes an increase on annual permits from \$150 to \$300. In order to maintain consistency with other annual permits, we would propose an amendment to this bill to set the annual overweight permit fee at \$200.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2371. If the committee decides to work this bill, we would respectfully request that the bill be amended as proposed above.