

Cattlemen Supportive of No New Ag Transportation Regulations

With the U.S. Department of Transportation considering new regulations that would directly impact farmers and ranchers, Kansas Cattlemen's Association shared many concerns that new transportation regulations for agriculture were unreasonable and unacceptable. Many questions regarding the proposed guidelines involved how interstate and intrastate commerce would be affected as well as requirements for commercial licenses, and required imposed for implements on public roads.

"With inputs at an all-time high, these types of regulations would have just added to farmers and ranchers expenses, stated KCA Executive Director, Brandy Carter. We currently have agricultural exemptions, and those are critical to the success of many operations."

The Department of Transportation heard from many concerned farmers and ranchers, and recently announced that it is committed to no new regulations.

"We have no intention of instituting onerous regulations on the hardworking farmers who feed our country and fuel our economy," said Secretary Ray LaHood. "Farmers deserve to know that reasonable, common sense exemptions will continue to be consistently available to agricultural operations across the country, and that's why we released this guidance."

"We want to make it absolutely clear that farmers will not be subjected to new and impractical safety regulations," said U.S. Transportation Deputy Secretary John Porcari. "The farm community can be confident that states will continue to follow the regulatory exemptions for farmers that have always worked so well."

"FMCSA (Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration) is pleased with the input we've received from the agricultural community and members of Congress. We received about 1700 comments and the vast majority called for us to preserve the guidance that leaves states to carry out the farm exceptions as they have for many years." said FMCSA Administrator Anne Ferro. "We want to make crystal clear that we are not imposing any new regulations."

KCA is pleased to hear that no new regulations will be imposed; however, we will stay informed and actively involved in monitoring and providing input to both state and national regulatory and legislative offices.