## Federal & State Legislative/Regulatory Review: Farm Bill, CERCLA, NAFTA

The first thirty days of the Kansas Legislative Session has included the introduction of numerous bills that may have an impact on Kansas cattle producers. In addition to legislative work, changes in administration have resulted in some further political considerations at the statehouse. With sixty more days of session left, a number of bills will be debated, with some passing and some failing. KCA will track the legislative process and keep our membership informed.

Kansas began February with a new Governor. Dr. Jeff Colyer assumed office on January 31, 2018 following the departure of Governor Sam Brownback to take the office of United States Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom. Colyer is also a 2018 candidate for Governor, among a field of 16 other candidates. The primary election includes 9 Republican candidates and 7 Democratic candidates. Colyer names his Lieutenant Governor as Tracy Mann, a Republican originally from Quinter, KS now residing in Salina.

Noxious weeds have been of discussion in the years past. Currently, legislative action is required to

modify the state's noxious weed list. A bill currently in the House of Representatives provides authority to the Secretary of Agriculture to regulate the statewide list. The Secretary could also provide an allowance for individual counties to identify additional noxious weeds. The bill is currently in the House Committee on Agriculture.

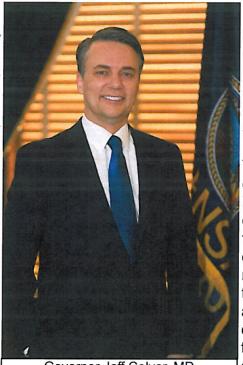
The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources had a hearing on a bill requiring hunting guides and outfitters to register with the department of wildlife, parks, and tourism. Landowners with 80 acres or more, located in the state of Kansas, and providing guide services or outfitter services in this

state, shall be exempt from the registration.

On February 1, 2018, the DC Circuit Court of Appeals granted EPA's motion to further stay issuance of the mandate until May 1, 2018. No reporting is required until the Court issues its order, or mandate, enforcing its decision to eliminate the reporting exemptions for farms on May 1, 2018. Due to a recent court decision, so+me farms (including

> ranches, livestock operations and/ or animal operations) were soon to be required to report hazardous substance air releases from animal waste under CERCLA. A bipartisan bill has been introduced in the Senate to help ease the pressures of CERCLA on producers.

> The NAFTA renegotiations are still on the table for the Trump administration. The cattle and beef trade deficit has seen a substantial uptick since the repeal of Country of Origin Labeling, and some agriculturalists indicate it necessary to strike a better deal with Canada and Mexico. Administration officials have argued against the termination and/or renegotiation of NAFTA. KCA supports keeping trade quotas and tariffs in trade ne-



Governor Jeff Colyer, MD

gotiations.

The 2018 Farm Bill time line continues to slip as Congress takes on shutdown issues and immigration. Some political analysts question if we will see a Farm Bill completed in 2018. However, there is the possibility we will see action on the Farm Bill as early as mid-March.

KCA will continue to track Federal and State Legislation. Additional information on a Country of Origin Labeling bill introduced in the Statehouse can be seen on page 10.

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#### KCA Accepting Scholarship Applications through March

As a "for producers, by producers" non-profit organization, KCA offers education scholarship programs designed to give back to the communities that support KCA and the independent producer. Funding of these programs is made possible by contributions from KCA partnering organizations, membership donations, and county meeting support.

#### **Purpose**

The Kansas Cattlemen's Association and the Go Bob Pipe & Steel Scholarship are designed to ease the financial burden of qualified scholars seeking higher education, including: four-year college/university, junior college, vocational/trade, or technical training for the school year beginning this Fall.

#### Qualifications:

The following must be met or completed to be considered:

- 1. Applicant must be a high school or college student with a GPA of 2.5 or higher. Applicant must plan to attend a junior college, 4+ year college/university, vocational/trade school or enrolled in technical training for the fall of 2018.
- 2. Applicant must write a short essay on one of the following topics. The essay must be 250 500 words.
  - a. The value of beef or protein in a well-balanced diet.
  - b. The value of independent cattle producers to your community.
- c. How has a lack of effective market competition affected independent cattle marketing?
- 3. Applicant must completely fill out the application, including signatures from respective schools, and return it to the KCA office by March 31, 2018. Parent signature is required for high school students.
- 4. Include the applicant's most-recent school transcript.
- 5. Provide an updated student resume that outlines education achievements, related work experience, and extra-curricular activities.

#### Completed applications are to be returned by March 31, 2018 to:

Kansas Cattlemen's Association

Attn: Scholarship Program 725 N. Washington St. Junction City, KS 66441

Scholarship recipients will be chosen by the KCA Board of Directors. Recipients will be announced in the summer of 2018. Awards will be issued directly to the attended institution or a check will be made payable to the student and the institution provided by the recipient in their application. Recipients are responsible for providing enrollment verification prior to the August 1, 2018 disbursement date.



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Oklahoma Self Storage Association

Message from the President. We may be in the middle of winter, but KCA well. It is simple to do, has been busy. Tyler Dupy, KCA Executive Director, Upcoming Board member, Greg Davis, and myself met with an attorney in Hutchinson who specializes in COOP law. We spent three hours in his office going over the laws regarding cooperatives. Tyler has spent several hours on the phone with him already. A regular farmer Co-Op is complicated but forming a beef Co-Op (which to my knowledge has never been done), is really complicated. We have been working on this project for 1 ½ years and are still not there but we are getting closer. Thank you for your

We are getting ready to start our regional meetings for 2018. Our first meeting is March 1 in Garden City. The second is May 1 in Moline. We are hopeful for good attendance at the meetings. There is always tasty food and fellowship and of course good programs, and we always have great sponsors. So, mark your calendars and plan on attending a regional meeting that is close to you. Consider hosting a meeting in your area as

patience.

Jan Stewart and Jodie in the KCA office is a tremendous help in setting up all the details.

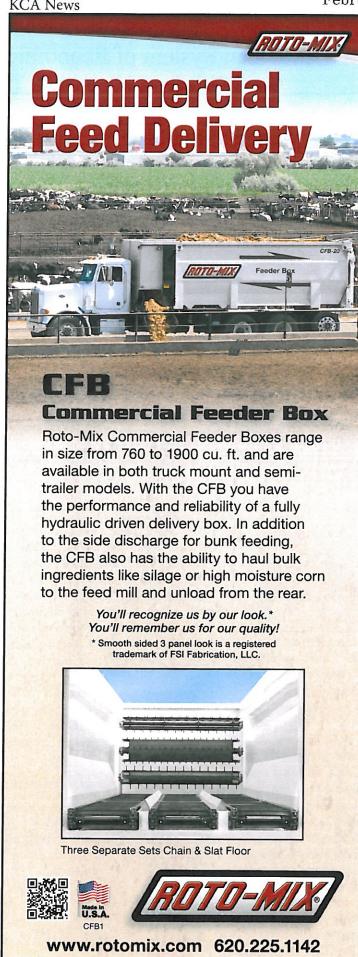
Pay close attention to Page 2 where the scholarship informa-



tion is located. The KCA Scholarship program is made possible by member donations and generous sponsors. Please spread the word to the youth in your area that are seeking higher education. The opportunity is open to any student seeking higher education. It can be junior college, university, technical training, and more. A good education is very expensive, and the KCA Scholarship application is a simple process to complete. Urge the youth in your area to go to our website for the application and additional details.

> Until next time, God Bless! Alan Stewart





#### KCA to Host Garden City Regional **Meeting March 1st**

Kansas Cattlemen's Association (KCA) will hold a regional cattle producer's meeting in Garden City, Kansas on March 1, 2018. The meeting will take place at the Clarion Inn convention center and will begin at 5:30 pm. A free USA-Beef meal will be served.

The meeting will include policy presentations as well as an animal health seminar. An expert veterinarian from Production Animal Consultation will be on hand to discuss Bovine Respiratory Disease (BRD). a complex bacterial infection that causes pneumonia in calves, that can possibly be fatal. In addition to the presentation on BRD, there will be a question and answer series, so producers can receive information on other ailments facing their cattle.

KCA staff will be on hand to provide a policy presentation and to answer questions. The Kansas legislative session is currently in full swing, with numerous bills working their way through both chambers. KCA will provide an updated review of active legislation and regulations during the meeting.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Members are encouraged to bring along fellow cattle producers. To ensure enough food is ordered, those planning to attend are asked to call the KCA offices at 785-238-1483 or email cowsrus@kansascattlemen.com to rsvp.

This event has been made possible by generous sponsors: Roto-Mix, Winter Livestock, Merck Animal Health, Schwieterman, Inc., Animal Health International, Highland Livestock Services, State Auto Farm & Ranch Insurance, Water Tight Roofing, and Hampel Oil.

# Hey America! Beef-Up No. 18

# To Restore Rural America!

# Restore the American System of Economics Crush Wall Street Monopolies Restore Glass-Steagall We Can Stop the Opioid Despair! China Did! By Robert L. Baker

The U.S. economy is in an economic breakdown. U.S. farm families in agriculture are, a most, if not the most, important, economic rock of the U.S. economy, but are now manifesting a degree of economic despair never before seen in America. Farmers and America need a parity oriented pricing system to safeguard food production and economy.

A recent opioid survey sponsored by the National Farmers Union and American Farm Bureau Federation indicates the opioid crisis has struck farm and ranch families much harder than the rest of rural America. While just under 50% of rural Americans say they have been directly impacted by opioid abuse, when looking closer, a surprising 74 percent of farmers and farm workers say they, in particular, have been directly impacted by opioid use around them.

This is an eye opening wake-up call to "Fix the Economy" – Big Time!



Loss of Farm Purchasing Power

Suicide rates among farmers are at a historic high. According to Iowa Farmer Today, in 2016, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a report that looked at suicide rates for different occupational groups. One surprising statistic is that suicide rates for workers in the agricultural, fishing and forestry industry are at record highs, the highest of any other occupational group and exceeding rates

in other high-risk populations, including military veterans. Current national suicide rates for people working in agriculture are 90.5 per 100,000 among males. This means that suicide rates among male farmers are now more than 50 percent higher than they were in 1982, at the peak of the farm crisis.

According to a CBS News special report, the latest numbers from the CDC, show that 64,070 people died from drug overdoses in 2016. That's a 21 percent increase over 2015 and more than died in the Vietnam War. Expectations are higher for 2017.

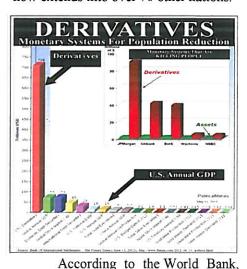


Emergency action must be taken immediately. The food producing farmers, like the poor, of the United States, are being destroyed on the front lines of what can be called the Casino Economy.

Financial bubbles are worse now, than in 2008 and, ten years later, are sucking the last drops of blood out of what is left of production agriculture and industry. What's driving the suicidal despair? The economy is not recovering.

--- The New Silk Road Economy --By contrast, in other parts of the world you see the biggest economic expansion in the history of the world. A New Economic Paradigm is sweeping the world. We are talking about the Chinese development of what is called The New Silk Road or One Belt, One Road

economic development plan, which was announced by President Xi, in 2013 and now extends into over 70 other nations.



China's poverty rate fell from 88 percent in 1981 to 6.5 percent in 2012. In all, China has lifted 700 million people out of poverty through more than 30 years of reform and opening-up. By the year 2020, China plans to eliminate all poverty and double urban and rural per capita income. New poverty statistics released by China on January 5, 2018, show that 13 million more people were lifted out of poverty in 2017. With 30 million to go or about 2.1%, of 1.41 billion total population, China is well on its way toward their goal of zero poverty by 2020.





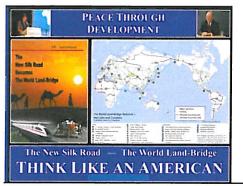
By contrast the U.S. has 40 million or about 12% of 329 million total population, in poverty. The U.S. also has the largest historical debt in the world that mostly resulted from Wall Street casino style derivatives, speculation and bailouts, not building up the industrial infrastructure of physical economy, like China continues to do.

China does not suffer from a "bubble economy" like the Wall Street, London and European Economies. China builds infrastructure. It has built more high speed trains than the rest of the world is operating and connected three major rail lines (see map) from China into Moscow and Europe clear to Spain and through the Channel into Great Britain. These are not just A to B lines; but they are corridors of economic development.

More concrete has been poured in the last ten years, in China, than the U.S. poured in the last 100 years.

China produces more steel per month, then the U.S. does per year, most of which is going into the building of more than 240 new cities, 75 new major airports, the biggest hydroelectric dam and water transfer projects in world history and 28,000 km of high speed rail by 2025 and 45,000 km by 2035.

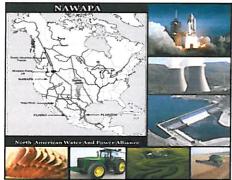
The surprising irony is that the Chinese are, fundamentally, using the economic principles, that are very much like the principles developed by America's first Treasury Secretary,



Alexander Hamilton. They came to be known around the world as the American System of Economics. The most powerful economic system ever created.

So, what do we do? Leading American System economist and statesman, Lyndon LaRouche has warned for decades that the United States must break the control of Wall Street and London's financial system and restore the American System or we will have a hyper-inflationary financial blowout because too much money printing for speculation rather than, what made our nation great, building and improving our agro-industrial base. LaRouche calls it the Four Economic Laws

These laws are basically modeled after Alexander Hamilton's first economic papers on manufacturing, banking, credit and their constitutionality and have historic precedent. President Lincoln used them to create the Greenbacks, build the Trans-Continental



Railroad and win the Civil War. President Franklin Roosevelt used them to reorganize the banks, pass Glass-Steagall, build Dams and economy to stop the great depression. President John F. Kennedy used them to launch the space program.

How do these four laws work? I will walk you through, yes you guessed it, the four steps. So here we go!

First.) The U.S. congress must restore the Glass-Steagall Act, to stop speculative lending. This will, with audits, force through the bankruptcy of many of the "Too Big To Fail" banks on Wall Street, reorganize them and then require them to choose if they want to be good Commercial Banks, that will provide adequate credit to farms and productive re-industrialization or be "speculative" Investment Banks, who will get no FDIC guarantees.

**Second.)** The U.S. must restore a Credit System, like we use to have, to



generate all the credit necessary to build the new railroads, dams, water systems, energy grids, hospitals and schools and infrastructure needed to make the U.S. a self-sustaining economy based on "real" high wage production jobs once again.

**Third.)** The U.S. must reestablish a National Bank through which congress can direct new credit to targeted new farms and infrastructure building that is desperately needed,

**Fourth.)** With 1, 2, & 3 above, in place, the U.S. is ready to activate the key to our future, which is, new scientific research and development, especially in the area of Space exploration and Fusion energy development.

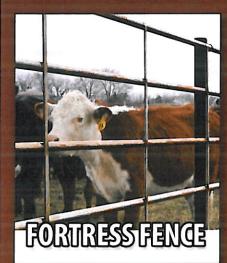
We will explain the American System in more detail, in Part II of this article.

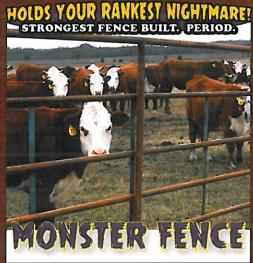
Robert L. Baker, Agricultural Research Specialist, Executive Intelligence Review bb888k@gmail.com

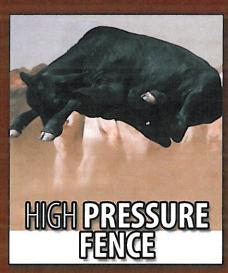




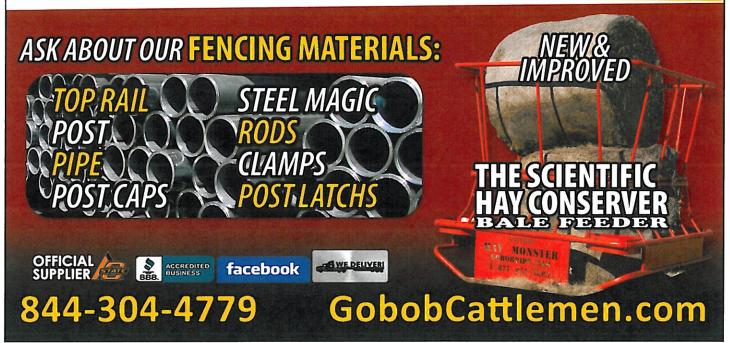
# **CONTINUOUS FENCING:**







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## Cattlemen's Beef Cooperative Continues to Work Toward Incorporation

The Kansas Cattlemen's Beef Cooperative committee was created with the purpose to find a better way to extract added value for cattle producer's efforts when marketing cattle. Improving the producer's share of the retail beef price spread can be accomplished with the right strategy which ultimately provides the consumer with a choice of buying a certified domestic program of beef where they are confident it is truly beef born, raised, and harvested in the United States.

The project involves the development of a branded beef program designed to enhance the consumer's understanding that the product is pure beef grown by our ranching neighbors with domestic cattle and superior animal health and welfare strategies. Members of the cooperative will have the ability to market their finished cattle to the consumer by a more direct route. Simplifying the numerous levels of the commercial model: packer, processor, distribu-

tor, wholesale, and eventually retail; will help to offset increased expense in processing.

The benefits of the program extend deep into our rural communities as well. Shopping local, buying local products, and processing at the local level helps to support our rural economy on a bigger scale. As the program is tested, it will have the ability to grow throughout additional regions that can support the needs of the cooperative.

The complexities with the development of the program go far beyond anything common with today's marketing strategies. Cooperatives can provide an excellent way for ranchers to market beef, but they have to be setup with incredibly meticulous planning to ensure the highest likelihood of success. Kansas Cattlemen's Association will continue to provide updates on the development of the program as we move beyond the legal complexities.



## Ways to Stay Engaged!

- Attend a Meeting
- Join a Committee
- Contribute an Article
- Host a Member Meeting
- Recruit a New Member
- Like Us On Facebook
- Send us your pictures
- Follow us on Twitter





## COOL Legislation Recently Introduced in Kansas House of Reps

Representative Adam Lusker of the Kansas House of Representatives requested for introduction to the House, HB 2742 on Friday, February 9, 2018. The bill relating to labeling requirements for muscle cuts of beef, muscle cuts of pork, ground beef or ground pork meat outlines proposed law to ensure consumers are provided with country of origin information when purchasing the commodities at the point of sale in a retail establishment.

Kansas Cattlemen's Association (KCA) applauds Representative Lusker for taking action to provide consumers with country of origin information at the retail purchase, and for recognizing the importance for a truthful label. KCA has long supported mandatory country of origin labeling on all imported and mixed origin cattle and beef. In addition, KCA supports legislation and regulation which promotes "USA Beef" as born, raised, and harvested in the USA.

As proposed, HB 2742 states a retailer of a covered commodity (beef and pork) shall inform consumers in this state of the country of origin of the covered commodity at the final point of sale of the covered commodity to consumers. The covered commodities are defined as muscle cuts of beef and pork and ground beef and pork.

The bill goes on to define the available labels as: not exclusively born, raised, and slaughtered in the United States; born, raised, or slaughtered in the United States; and not imported into the United States for immediate slaughter. The bill would require that a commodity derived from an animal not born, raised, or slaughtered in the United States shall be designated as the country of its true origin. Ground products will list all of the countries of origin.

KCA will continue to support Country of Origin Labeling legislation and regulation. KCA has been working with legislators and other industry organizations to implement state-side legislation which enhances consumer's right to transparency in labeling and other identifiers at the retail point of sale.

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## KCA Currently Scheduling 2018 Regional Meetings

The Kansas Cattlemen's Association (KCA) hosts county and regional meetings throughout the year around the state of Kansas. The purpose of these meetings is to bring social and educational opportunities to the members of the association and for the public, as well as recruit new members. We need members like you to host meetings in your area.

As a host, you help direct KCA staff on selecting venues and recruiting attendees. KCA does the bulk of the heavy lifting by setting up presentations, finding sponsors, and arranging for meals.

If you would like to learn more about hosting a meeting or would like to see a meeting in your area, please contact the KCA offices at 785-238-1483 or by sending us an email to cowsrus@kansascattlemen.com.

#### Congressional Directory

House of Representatives Lynn Jenkins 202-225-6601

Kevin Yoder 202-225-2865

Ron Estes 202-225-6216

Pat Roberts 202-224-4774

Senate Jerry Moran 202-224-6521

#### Schedule of Events

**Kansas Cattle Drive** February 17

Buhler, Kansas

SWKS Regional Meeting March 1

Garden City, Kansas

Clarion Inn

March 31 Scholarship Application

Deadline

Regional Meeting May 1

Moline, Kansas

Regional Meeting June 2018

McPherson, Kansas

**KCA Annual Membership** November 9

Meeting

**KCA Annual Convention** November 9-10

Newton, Kansas



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Steven Schild

Darrel Jarboe

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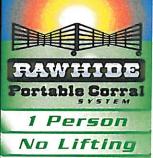
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