

534 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 830 Topeka, KS 66603 Office - (785) 246-8444 Fax - (866) 588-9472 www.devineanddonley.com

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**House Committee on Taxation Representative Adam Smith, Chair** 

Written Testimony of Kansas Farm Bureau and Kansas Corn Growers Association in support of SB 282

Presented by Allie Devine, Devine, Donley, & Murray LLC

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of SB 282. The Kansas Farm Bureau, and the Kansas Corn Growers Association support SB 282 which contains the provisions of SB 375 an SB 376 and provides tools to incentivize developers and builders to invest in housing in rural Kansas. The lack of housing is a barrier to economic growth in rural Kansas. Our private study, and the Statewide Housing Assessment, clearly identify the need for more housing to support workers who are supporting economic growth.

As others will outline, there are many challenges to rural housing such as lack of adequate appraisal data, increased costs because of location and shortage of workers, and a general lack of builders who are willing to invest in rural areas.

The programs outlined in this bill provide tools to "make the deal" happen. These tools, when combined with other existing programs, become the catalyst for investment.

There are significant economic development opportunities awaiting in rural Kansas. These tools will help those opportunities to become realities. We ask your support for this bill.

Thank you