



July 7, 2017

Dear Food For Peace Conference Participants:

Thank you for allowing the Kansas Cattlemen's Association the opportunity to address everyone today. KCA is headquartered in the center of the United States in Junction City, Kansas. We wished to have been able to join you there in beautiful New York City, but logically we could not make it work. Thank you for the opportunity provided by the Schiller Institute, and their work to open up a dialogue on Food for Peace: The New Name for Peace is Economic Development Conference.

The Kansas Cattlemen's Association has been serving USA agriculture and independent cattle producers since 1998. We are committed to restoring profits, self-esteem, freedom, fair trade, trust, and community pride back to the farms, ranches and rural communities across Kansas and the nation. KCA is a trusted advocate on behalf of farmers, ranchers, and consumers. Our working relationships throughout the industry make us a consistent and credible source for information regarding top agriculture issues with our membership, US and Kansas legislators, and numerous national and state organizations.

Through the countryside of Kansas, you will find multi-generational farms and ranches, dating back to the settlements of the 1800's. Although sectors of the agriculture industry have vertically integrated, and is driven by large scale corporate farming operations, the cattle industry remains primarily driven by independent ranches and family farms. We believe that these family operations are the backbone to rural America communities and the \$40+ billion cattle industry here in Kansas. Our ranches are already playing a critical role on the World Stage of agriculture, and this conference will help to demonstrate that all of humanity is a stakeholder and we all have a part to play as we move forward for food and for peace, for all.

Kansas is known throughout the world for our production of wheat and corn. Kansas produced over 400 million bushels of wheat in 2016, the most of any other state in the United States. The 2016 harvest yielded nearly 700 million bushels of corn, our largest harvest in history. Although the eastern third of the state receives in excess of 30 inches of rain annually, the western two-thirds of the state is arid and depends on irrigation for the majority of our crop production. The Ogallala Aquifer has been our primary source of water, and has been dramatically depleted over the past half-century. Conservation efforts have reduced our dependency on the aquifer, but a 50-year water plan strives for further infrastructure development of conservation and alternative water sources.

When considering the effect technology has had on food supply, I am reminded of a famous folk-lore story of Jack and the Bean Stalk. In this short story, young Jack trades his family cow for magical beans. The origin of this story dates to the mid 1730's, when beans had not changed for millennia, but technology has opened doors to understanding the genetics of beans, vegetables, and livestock. Our increased knowledge has provided us the opportunity to produce higher yields with fewer acres of land, less water and resources, fuel, and waste while maintaining nutrition and safety.

It is possible to take technology too far in our pursuits for higher yields and quality grades, so it is critical we strike a balance that keeps our humanity in our food production. Jack was human, and was said to have erred by trading his family cow for the beans, but he ended up on an adventure of a lifetime and



financially sound by the end of the story. We can take such an adventure. Together, we can help set the direction for where we are going long-term in food production for feeding the world.

We look forward to continuing our work on Glass Steagall financial reform, as well as working with the Schiller Institute and you as participants in this conference, as we set out on this path. I would like to personally thank Robert Baker of the Executive Intelligence review for the many travels, phone calls, and numerous articles he has written to help educate and inform producers and consumers on Glass Steagall financial reform as well as the "One Belt, One Road" infrastructure initiatives.

Furthermore, I invite you to reach out to Kansas Cattlemen's Association for information, research, and as a valuable resource. Please plan to come to Kansas on an agri-tour visit. Come see our farms, ranches, feed yards, and food processors in action. We host an annual convention in the fall, which includes two days of seminars and presentations directly related to Kansas cattle production of which you are invited to attend. My staff and I would be happy to help coordinate events and travel plans.

Thank you again for your time and commitment to Food for Peace.

Best regards,

Tyler C. Dupy  
Chief Executive Officer  
Kansas Cattlemen's Association