

February 4, 2017

To The Senate Education Committee,

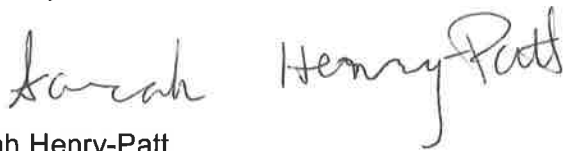
I am writing to express my support of the consideration of SB230.

I consider myself fortunate to have been a part of FFA in my youth. It equipped me with skills in public speaking, the ability to run a meeting, sales and marketing skills and the appreciation for the agriculture industry that feeds our communities.

When it came time for my three children to have the opportunity to participate in FFA as an organization, my husband and I fully supported them in their choice to participate. We were able to watch our children grow and mature in the organization and take their leadership skills to levels, I am not sure would have been attainable for them without the organization. Our children have been well versed in Public Speaking, Debate, Parliamentary Procedure, and a vast expanse of real life skills through their participation in CDE 's and their SAE's. Their first hand experiences, in sales, customer service and product development will be useful in any career path they choose. Seeing the positive effects of this program personally has opened my eyes to the need for stable funding of the FFA programs. Everything FFA stands for, is what we as a community want to see in our secondary education programs, students who come out of the program with skills that make them immediately employable and ready to move on to further Technical training or University level Degrees.

This is the epitome of the type of program our State's Education leaders should be supporting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Henry-Patt". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sarah Henry-Patt