

Submitter: Karie Kelley
On Behalf Of: Union County 4-H
Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small
Business, and Trade
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2527

I have been involved with the Union County Fair for almost a decade. Being a past Agriculture Instructor and now the Union 4-H Program Coordinator, I see firsthand the impacts that local fairs and involvement within the community have on our youth. The conditions of the Union County Fair grounds are in serious need of improvement and support. 4-H and FFA rely heavily on this facility throughout the year for events and meetings. We are fortunate enough to have the support of the board to use the facilities, and we take great pride in community service projects each year, working to restore or maintain various parts of the grounds.

The UCF grounds are full of rich history and tradition in this valley, spanning back many, many years. Looking at the current state, and how the future looks for our youth and facilities, I am concerned that without the support of this bill and necessary improvements to the grounds, we may be putting an end to that history. There is so much pride behind the youth in our community, their involvement in projects like 4-H and FFA. It is time we support the growth of those programs and help restore the facility and make it a venue people are proud to attend. The improvements to these facilities will impact the attendance of the fair, and hopefully increase the use throughout the year, providing an additional facility for our small community to use.

Thank you,

Karie Kelley
4-H Program Coordinator