

# SENATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

## Stephen R. Morris

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STATE OF KANSAS

## Committee Assignments:

Chairman:  
Interstate Cooperation  
Legislative Coordinating Council  
Organization, Calendar and Rules  
KPERS Select  
NCSL President-Elect

Member:  
Agriculture  
Capitol Restoration Commission  
Federal and State Affairs  
Natural Resources  
Pensions, Investments and Benefits  
State Finance Council  
CSG Executive Committee  
The Energy Council Executive Committee

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Senate President Steve Morris Appreciates Governor's Concern** *Extreme Drought Conditions Warrant the Administration's Attention*

Topeka – Kansas Senate President Steve Morris, R-Hugoton, today issued a statement expressing appreciation to Gov. Sam Brownback for his interest and concern for the extreme drought conditions decimating Southwest Kansas. The Governor plans to visit Elkhart, Hugoton and Liberal on Wednesday, July 13 to visit with area residents and leaders.

Morris stated, “The prolonged, devastating drought conditions in Southwest Kansas are taking a tremendous toll on crops and livestock, and on the people who live in these areas. For farmers and ranchers, the situation is becoming dire. I am pleased Gov. Brownback, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Executive Director of the Kansas Water Office are keeping a close eye on conditions so the State’s response can be immediate and effective. Agriculture is a major component of the Kansas economy, and a great deal of agriculture in our part of the state is suffering terribly from this heat and the lack of rain or moisture of any kind.”

Morris also expressed regret that a previous commitment to serve as the keynote speaker for a national convention in Washington, D.C., prevents him from joining the Governor as he visits and surveys drought and heat-related damage in Morton, Stevens and Seward Counties. “Although I cannot personally be at the Governor’s side for this tour,” said Morris, “one of my key leadership staffers, Joshua Lewis, will make the trip out with the Governor’s delegation and will be able to keep me up-to-the-minute on concerns expressed by the citizens of Southwest Kansas.”

President Morris is a native of Hugoton. He and his family run a corn, wheat and grain sorghum farming operation.

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