



**Senate Committee on Agriculture
Testimony in support of House Bill 2364**

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Chairman Love, members of the Committee, I am Tim Stroda. I represent the members of the Kansas Pork Association.

For decades, veterinarians have been a part of our industry's team of advisors. In the last couple of years, they have become even more important.

I'm sure those of you who were buying high-priced bacon over the summer know that the nation's pork farms have suffered an outbreak of a disease named Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea virus (PEDv). An estimated seven million young pigs were lost across the nation.

Veterinarians were the first call when the disease began working through our farms and they are still on the job helping to prevent its spread.

As we look ahead, the number of veterinarians interested in food animal practices is shrinking. The Veterinary Training Program for Rural Kansas is providing the livestock industry with a new group of veterinarians who are interested in our businesses.

The members of the Kansas Pork Association support HB 2364 and we urge you to vote for the measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Kansas Pork Industry Facts



Pork farmers make Kansas better

1. There are about 1,000 hog farms in Kansas. Of these operations, 150 produce over 99% of the state's pigs.
2. Kansas is the number 10 state in hog and pig inventory producing about 2.7 percent of the nation's total.
3. In 2014, Kansas producers sold 2,900,775 market hogs, feeder pigs and seedstock with a gross market value of \$628,932,650. These hogs produced over 500,000,000 pounds of pork which helps feed millions of people in the U.S. and abroad through exports.

Pork industry important to Kansas economy

Kansas pork farms consume over 30 million bushels of grain. Primarily, these operations utilize Kansas-grown grain sorghum and corn. At January 2015 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$108,000,000 on grain sorghum and corn this year.

Kansas pork farms also consume the equivalent of over eight million bushels of soybeans through soybean products. At January 2015 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$72,000,000 on soybean meal this year.

Kansas pork farmers support suppliers of goods and services to their businesses. A short list of vendors includes:

- **Feed suppliers** - grain and nutritional supplements.
- **Construction** - includes new building and maintenance.
- **Labor** - as with any business, growth means increased labor needs.
- **Supplies** - pork producers utilize Main Street businesses for a vast array of items ranging from veterinary supplies to office supplies.
- **Equipment** - pork producers utilize specialty equipment for many tasks including nutrient management.
- **Utilities** - gas, propane and electric.
- **Trucking** - producers utilize trucking to bring grain to the farm as well as hauling hogs to market.
- **Services** - pork producers utilize many services along Main Street including financial, medical, accounting, legal, engineering, and veterinary.