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Jan. 27, 2015

TO: Sen. Jeff King, Chairman and Committee Members
Senate Judiciary Committee

FROM: Leslie Kaufman, President/CEO
Kansas Cooperative Council

RE: **WRITTEN ONLY**
Support for SB 38 – Bad Faith Assertions of Patent Infringement

Chairman King and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments in support of efforts to reduce bad faith assertions of patent infringement claims, including those outlined in SB 38. I am Leslie Kaufman and I appear today on behalf of the co-op members of the Kansas Cooperative Council. Since 1944, our association has been representing the interests of cooperatives operating in Kansas. Our membership includes farm/ag supply cooperatives, rural electric and telecommunications companies, insurance and risk management operations, credit unions and the Farm Credit system.

Our member adopted policy supports changes in the regulatory, administrative and judicial systems that eliminate unnecessary regulation or litigation, reduce predatory legal action, help control the cost of litigation, encourage business development and promote growth in the Kansas economy. We see SB 38 as a tool to address a predatory legal action -- asserting a patent infringement claim in bad faith.

There are others that will speak to specific components of the bill in much greater detail, but we do share in support of addressing the issue of bad faith patent infringement claims through a mechanism such as SB 38. Thus, we hope you will look favorably on this measure.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions regarding our position on this issue, please feel free to contact me.

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