

816 SW Tyler St., Ste. 300 - Topeka, KS 66612 785-233-4068 www.kansasco-op.coop

Jan. 28, 2015

TO: Sen. Larry Powell, Chairman and Committee Members

Senate Committee on Natural Resources

FROM: Leslie Kaufman, President/CEO

Kansas Cooperative Council

RE: WRITTEN ONLY

Support for SB 36 – Allowing carry-over into multi-year flex account

(MYFA)

Chairman Powell and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written comments in support of SB 36 allowing the rolling forward one year's worth of water into a multi-year flex account.

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 marketing and ag supply cooperatives, rural electric and telecommunications companies, insurance and risk management operations, credit unions and the Farm Credit system. Our farm marketing and ag supply co-ops are owned and controlled by agricultural producers and, in many of areas of the state, they will be water right holders. Thus, this bill is of interest to our association and our members.

Our adopted policy supports the use of MYFAs as a tool for saving water. We believe the ability to roll a quantity of water from one MYFA into a subsequent one will further encourage water conservation. As such, we support the bill and 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.

Leslie J. Kaufman KCC President/CEO 785-220-4068