

Approved February 26, 1986
Date

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Agriculture

The meeting was called to order by Senator Allen at
Chairperson

10:00 a.m./p.m. on February 20, 1986 in room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present ~~except~~:

Committee staff present:

Fred Carman, Assistant Revisor of Statutes
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Jack Beauchamp, President, Board of Agriculture
Harland Priddle, Secretary, State Board of Agriculture
Del Wiedeman, President, Kansas Association of Wheat Growers
Richard Basehor, farmer, Bentley
Paul Fleenor, Farm Bureau
Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association
Kathy Peterson, Committee of Kansas Farm Organizations
Altis Ferree, President, Kansas Board of State Fair Managers
John Oswald, past Board of Agriculture member
Bob Gottschalk, Executive Director, State Fair
Mike Kleiber, Kansas Fertilizer Chemical Association
Ardan Booth, Cattleman, Lawrence
Nancy Kantalo, Kansas Cooperative Council
Mason Flora, farmer, Harveyville

Senator Allen called the Committee to order and welcomed all guests present for the hearing of the opponents of Executive Reorganization Order No. 21. The Chairman explained that because of the number of conferees there would be no questions unless time remains after all conferees have given their testimony.

The Chairman called on Jack Beauchamp to testify.

Mr. Beauchamp gave copies of his testimony to the Committee (attachment 1). Mr. Beauchamp expressed the feeling that the Secretary of Agriculture appointed by the Governor would be held more accountable to the Governor than to the people of Kansas. He encouraged disapproval of ERO No. 21.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Beauchamp and called on Harland Priddle to testify.

Mr. Priddle gave copies of his testimony to the Committee members (attachment 2). Mr. Priddle stated that a Secretary of Agriculture appointed by the Governor would not be conducive to continuity or long term planning and that now the State Board of Agriculture is accountable to the Governor, the Legislature and to the people in all 105 counties of the state. He expressed the hope that all work together to help agriculture the number one industry of Kansas. He stated the Board of Agriculture opposes ERO No. 21.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Priddle and called on Del Wiedeman to testify.

Mr. Wiedeman handed copies of his testimony to the Committee (attachment 3). Mr. Wiedeman stated the feeling that an appointed Secretary of Agriculture would first be responsible to the Governor and to the people second. He asked the Committee to disallow ERO No. 21.

Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Agriculture,
room 313-S, Statehouse, at 10:00 a.m./~~p.m.~~ on February 20, 1986

The Chairman thanked Mr. Wiedeman and called on Richard Basehor to testify.

Mr. Basehor stated that he was a farmer from Sedgwick County and that he was testifying for himself. He said that in his business he had been involved with services of the State Board of Agriculture and they do a good job. He stated the federal agriculture department has not always served us well and expressed the feeling that with an appointive secretary the state might not be served as well as we are now under the present organization of the State Board of Agriculture. He said he feels a State Department of Agriculture would be similar to the federal and, at this time, agriculture does not need a kick in the teeth. Mr. Basehor suggested the Secretary of Agriculture should maybe be elected by the people or at least maybe the people of the state should vote on whether to make the position an appointive position or not. He said the Board of Agriculture now is not under any political thumb and he encouraged disapproval of ERO No. 21 to keep it that way.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Basehor and called on Paul Fleenor to testify.

Mr. Fleenor gave copies of his testimony to the Committee (attachment 4). Mr. Fleenor stated the Farm Bureau feels the present organization for the State Board of Agriculture is the best. He urged the Committee reject ERO No. 21.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Fleenor and called on Mike Beam to testify.

Mr. Beam gave copies of his testimony to the Committee (attachment 5). Mr. Beam opposed any change in the structure of the State Board of Agriculture. He encouraged the Committee vote for disapproval of ERO No. 21.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Beam and called on Kathy Peterson to testify.

Ms. Peterson gave copies of her testimony to the Committee (attachment 6). Ms. Peterson stated that farmers best know the problems of agriculture and for that reason ask for disapproval of ERO No. 21.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Peterson and called on Altis Ferree to testify.

Mr. Ferree gave copies of his testimony to the Committee (attachment 7). Mr. Ferree expressed concern about the parts of ERO No. 21 that refer to the State Fair Board. He requested the Committee disapprove ERO No. 21.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Ferree and called on John Oswald to testify.

Mr. Oswald gave copies of his testimony to the Committee members (attachment 8). He said he did not believe any of the proposals for changes would improve the existing system.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Oswald and called on Bob Gottschalk to testify.

Mr. Gottschalk gave copies of his testimony to the Committee members (attachment 9). Mr. Gottschalk requested the operation of the Kansas State Fair be left in its present form.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Gottschalk and called on Mike Kleiber to testify.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate COMMITTEE ON Agriculture,
room 313-S, Statehouse, at 10:00 a.m. ~~pm~~ on February 20, 1986

Mr. Kleiber gave copies of his testimony to the Committee (attachment 10). Mr. Kleiber expressed support for the present structure of the State Board of Agriculture and urged passage of SCR 1878 and disapproval of ERO No. 21.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Kleiber and called on Ardan Booth to testify.

Mr. Booth stated he represented only himself and that he expressed opposition to the Governor's suggestion for change in the State Board of Agriculture. He said he opposed this kind of change as he had in times past when it was suggested. He said the present system offers consistency which the proposed plan would not. He suggested if the State Board of Agriculture needed some improving then the improvements should be made, but do not junk the present system.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Booth and called on Nancy Kantola to testify.

Ms. Kantola handed copies of her testimony to the Committee members (attachment 11). Ms. Kantola asked disapproval of ERO No. 21 and expressed concern about the present non-partisan process taking on political overtones with the proposed change.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Kantola and called on Mason Flora to testify.

Mr. Flora gave copies of his testimony to the Committee (attachment 12). Mr. Flora stated he felt the work of the State Board of Agriculture would be jeopardized if the proposed changes are approved. He urged the Committee reject ERO No. 21.

The Chairman announced the hearings completed on ERO No. 21 and reminded the Committee would be meeting in Room 423-S the next day for the hearing on SB 518. Senator Allen declared the Committee adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

GUEST LIST

COMMITTEE: SENATE AGRICULTURE

DATE: February 20, 1986

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	ADDRESS	COMPANY/ORGANIZATION
Kathy Peterson	Topeka	CKFO
Nancy Kantola	Topeka	Kansas Co-op Council
John B. ...	Lewis	St Fair
Alvin Epler	Hallowell	St Bd Ag.
J. E. Blin	Longton	Kansas St. Fair
Lois Schlykav	Wades	State Board of Ag.
Jack Bouchamps	Atchison	Kans. Stat. Bd of Ag.
Garland Riddle	Kansas City Topeka	Ks Bd of Ag.
John O. Miller	Ingles	Kansas Dist. Ind. Council
MIKE BEAN	TOPEKA	Ks. LIVESTOCK ASSN.
Chris Wilson	Hutchinson	KS Fertilizer & Chem. Assn.
Mike Kleiber	Hillsboro	Ks Fert + Chem ASSN.
ELMER DENNING	HUTCHINSON	Ks STATE FAIR
Bob Gottschalk	HUTCHINSON	Ks STATE FAIR
Altis FERREE	Yates Center	Ks Bd of Fair Managers
Jeff Deel	Bellevue	represent self
William ...	ROSSVILLE	FARMER
Charles E. Hamor	Valley Falls	KS Bd of Fair Managers
Bob Arbuthnot	Haddon H.	Boys Ag.
Jack Stutz	Winchester City	FW
Jim Shoga	Topeka	Gov. Office
Janist Lee	Kensington	Citizen
Steve Jack	Topeka	Gov's Office
Malcolm Moore	7330 S.W. 11th Auburn	Sierra Club
Ron Wilson	Wichita	Farm Credit Council

TESTIMONY

to

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

on

EXECUTIVE REORGANIZATION ORDER 21

by

JACK BEAUCHAMP
PRESIDENT
KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

February 20, 1986

*attachment |
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.*

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, I am Jack Beauchamp, President of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. I have been a member of the Board for 17 years and am serving my second term as President. I am the senior member on the Board at the present time. My presentation this morning will cover three basic points: our current board composition and its experience, brief comments about the delegate base attending our annual meetings, and comments on the policy and planning and accountability issue of our Board.

Our current Board represents leadership from practically every phase of agriculture. We have two former legislators, seven conservation award winners, three current or past presidents of Kansas livestock breed associations, a nationally known and recognized quarter horse judge, past president and chairman of the board of the American Soybean Association, two Kansas Jaycee Outstanding Young Farmers, and the first Outstanding Woman of the Year for the American Hereford Auxillary. Our Board constitutes a diversity of representation at the time of their election as Board members. The current Board has a representation from six different organizations as well as three Board members who did not represent a specific organization at the time of their election. This diversity in background and experiences provides us a basis for dealing with the complex issues related to agriculture.

Although the agency appears to be in basically the same organizational structure as it was in its beginning in 1872, it is dramatically different in its day-to-day operations. To cite examples from only one area of our assigned responsibility, our marketing program, with assistance from the Governor and the Legislature, has become very active in the international marketplace. The past 12 months' activities included cohosting an international food show in Kansas City with 16 Kansas companies which attracted over 400 buyers from 55 foreign countries; holding the first ever Kansas/Japan Agricultural Trade Conference in Wichita involving the Governor and Ambassador to the United States from Japan; accompanying the Kansas Legislative Delegation to China which resulted in \$3.2 million in sales for Kansas companies; hosting two Taiwan Procurement Missions to Kansas which resulted in sales of approximately \$50 million in wheat and corn; developing a beef trade mission to Mexico with several hundred cattle being sold to breeders in that country. In 1982 we received the Presidential E Award given by the President of the United States for activities in the export

marketing area. Only eight states in the entire country have received this award. By these few examples, you can see that we are hardly the same organization that began in 1872.

In the area of delegate selection to our annual meeting, we commend the legislature for expanding the opportunity for additional delegates. This latest accomplishment was done in 1982. Our delegate base continues to expand. Our 1986 Annual Meeting attracted delegates from 43 statewide organizations. This is a dramatic increase compared to the 15 organizations that attended in 1976. I have attached a copy of this year's delegate source for your review. In the event you, the Legislature, would address further expansion of the delegate base, we would willingly participate in these discussions.

In the area of policy, it has not been the intent of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture to act as a centralized point in dictating or developing policy for agriculture in the state. We believe in allowing grassroots people to speak for themselves. However, we are pleased to accept new assignments of responsibility. Last year, you, upon the recommendation of the Governor, enacted a Hot Line referral system and assigned the Farmers Assistance, Counseling, and Training Service to our agency to implement. We are pleased to be a part of that and believe it is and will continue to help farmers in Kansas.

Although our agency has not acted as a development source for legislative input, we have assisted in every possible way to encourage dialogue and urged organizations and commodity groups to have their voice heard at the action level in Kansas and in Washington, D.C. Our Secretary was President of the 12-state Midwest Association of State Departments of Agriculture and President of a 12 state marketing organization, MIATCO. He was one of four regional board members of NASDA. This direct access to the action levels of USDA is beneficial and has provided us the ability to assist Kansas farmers and ranchers to have their voice heard in Washington, D.C. In 1983, he received the Wheat Man of the Year Award and Grange Award for his efforts in Kansas. This is just a brief example of how we have silently but, we believe, effectively encouraged Kansans to participate in the political process of developing agricultural policy.

In the area of accountability, the Board believes we are now accountable to the people of Kansas through the passage of laws and the approval of appropriations by the Legislative and Executive Branches of government. If accountability to the people of Kansas is what is desired, the question arises, if the Secretary is appointed by the Governor, is he more accountable to the people of Kansas or just more accountable to the Governor? By establishing a mind trust policy formation program through this reorganization, the grassroots concept of policy development, previously heralded as desirable, could be cast out. We believe this is not in your best interests nor in the best interests of agriculture and the future of this state.

In my years of service to Kansas under this system, I have been proud to have the privilege and have marveled at the progress we, the state of Kansas, have made. Kansas is a leader in many areas. We are willing to trust your wisdom and judgement representing all Kansans with input from everyone to do what is best for all of Kansas. We are confident that you will not throw the baby out with the bath. We believe you realize and are aware that you may end up with something far less desirable and workable than what you now have. We recommend you disapprove ERO 21. However, we, the Board of Agriculture and State Fair, look forward to cooperating with you and offering any assistance from our experience and bank of expertise in personnel to assist in your decision making in the future.

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

1986

OFFICERS

President.....Jack Beauchamp
 Vice President....Jake Roenbaugh
 Secretary.....Harland E. Priddle
 Treasurer.....Lois Schlickau

MEMBERS

<u>District</u>	<u>Organization Represented at Initial Election</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
1	Not a Delegate*	Jack Beauchamp, Ottawa	1987
1	Not a Delegate*	Charles E Hamon, Valley Falls	1988
2	Cherokee County Farm Bureau	Alvin Epler, Hallowell	1989
2	Woodson County Farm Bureau	Altis Ferree, Yates Center	1988
3	Kansas Livestock Association	Bob Arbuthnot, Haddam	1989
3	Dickinson County Farmers Union	Leon Riffel, Enterprise	1987
4	Elk County Farm Bureau	F. E. Bliss, Longton	1987
4	Reno County Fair Association	Lois Schlickau, Haven	1989
5	Morton County Fair Association	Floyd O. Coen, Elkhart	1987
5	Kansas Quarter Horse Association	Jake Roenbaugh, Lewis	1988
6	Rooks County Farm Bureau	Duane Steeples, Zurich	1987
6	Not a Delegate*	William Mai, Sharon Springs	1989

*Non-delegates may be elected to the State Board of Agriculture upon proper motion and second and election by voting delegates.

R.E. "Bob" Arbuthnot

R.E. "Bob" Arbuthnot, 66, has farmed near Haddam for 35 years. Arbuthnot has a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from Kansas State University. A breeder of purebred Hereford cattle, Arbuthnot's farming operation includes beef cattle and backgrounding calves. He formerly served on his local school board and was a member of the Kansas Legislature for more than 10 years. Arbuthnot is a member of the Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas Farm Bureau and other breed organizations. At the time of his election to represent District Three, in 1986, Arbuthnot was a delegate from the Kansas Livestock Association.

Jack E. Beauchamp

Jack E. Beauchamp, 54, is a lifelong farmer from the Ottawa area. His farming operation includes feeding and backgrounding of cattle. Beauchamp served for eight years on the USD 290 School Board and has been an officer of his local recreation commission and Extension Council. He has received awards as an Outstanding Young Farmer, the Bankers Award for Soil and Water Conservation, and Man Leader of the Year from Kansas Farm Bureau. He is a member of the National Cattlemen's Association and Farm Bureau, in addition to the State Fair Board and Board of Agriculture. Presently serving as president of the Board, Beauchamp was not a delegate when he was elected to represent District One in 1968.

F.E. Bliss

F.E. Bliss, 55, has farmed for 20 years near Longton. A native of Arkansas City, Bliss holds a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry from Oklahoma State University. He is a Quarter Horse breeder and has a cow-calf operation. In addition to his farming and ranching operation, he is a realtor and auctioneer. Bliss is a former 4-H Club Agent and Agricultural Extension Agent. He is a member of the Kansas Livestock Association, Elk County Farm Bureau and Kansas Quarter Horse Association Board. Bliss was a delegate from the Elk County Farm Bureau when was elected to represent District Four in 1981. He served as president of the Board in 1983.

Floyd O. Coen

Floyd O. Coen, 60, has farmed more than 40 years near Elkhart. His farming operation includes general livestock and grain production. He has bred and sold registered Brown Swiss and Polled Hereford cattle. Coen is a member of Kansas Farm Bureau, Extension Council, and a director of the Garden City Experiment Station. He is a former officer of the Extension Council; former member of the state 4-H Advisory Council; former president of the Kansas Brown Swiss Association, and the Polled Hereford Association. He is a past school board member, past member of the Kansas Legislature, director of the State Fairs Association, and a member of the Morton County Fair Board. He has received the 4-H Alumni Award, Bankers Award for Soil Conservation, and was named as Master Farmer in 1976. He also is a past president of the Board of Agriculture, which he joined in 1972 as a delegate from the Morton County Fair Association.

Alvin Epler

Alvin Epler, 51, Hallowell, has farmed in Kansas for 45 years. He is engaged in diversified grain and soybean farming, backgrounding and cattle feeding. He is a 4-H leader, member of the Farmers Co-op Board, FFA Advisory Committee, and Southeast Kansas Farm Management Board. He is a member of Farm Bureau who has received soil conservation awards and been named an Honorary FFA member. He was a delegate from the Cherokee County Farm Bureau when he was elected to serve on the Board from District Two in 1982. He served as president of the Board of Agriculture in 1984.

Altis G. Ferree

Altis G. Ferree, 51, has farmed near Yates Center for 33 years. In addition to farming, he is associated with Ferree Pipe Supply, Ferree Trucking, and is a seed corn dealer. He is a past member of his local School Board. Ferree is a member of the Kansas Livestock Association and Kansas Farm Bureau. Ferree is a past Outstanding Young Farmer of the Kansas Jaycees and has received awards for soil conservation. He was a delegate from the Woodson County Farm Bureau when he was elected to the Board of Agriculture in 1975. He served as president of the Board of Agriculture in 1978.

Charles E. Hamon

Charles E. Hamon, 47, has farmed near Valley Falls for some 24 years. In addition to a livestock operations, Hamon is involved in a family farm corporation which specializes in production and sale of certified seed. Hamon holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture from Kansas State University. He is a member and past chairman of the Kansas Soybean Commission and the Kansas Soybean Association; past president of the American Soybean Association; and past member of the Valley Falls USD 338 Board of Education and Jefferson County Regional Planning Commission. He also has been active on the Delaware #10 Watershed Board; Kansas Farm Bureau; Kansas Crop Improvement Association; Kansas Seed Dealers Association; Kansas Livestock Association. He was named an Outstanding Young Farmer by the Kansas Jaycees; Farmers Home Administration District Farm Family Award; and Farm Bureau Leader of the Year. He joined the Board of Agriculture in 1974 to represent District One; when elected to the Board, he was not a delegate to the Annual Meeting.

William V. Mai

William V. Mai, 49, has farmed near Sharon Springs since 1960. He holds a bachelor's degree from Bethany College. His farming operation includes wheat, corn, some certified seed production, and cattle feeding. He also is a salesman for Garst Seed Company. Mai is a member of Kansas Farm Bureau, Kansas Wheat Growers, Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas Corn Growers Association, and the Kansas Corn Commission. He is a member and past chairman of the Wallace County Extension Council Board. He has received the Bankers Award for Soil Conservation and was named a Farm Bureau Leader of the Year in 1976. Mai was not a delegate when he was elected to represent District Six of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture in 1983. He served as president of the Board in 1985.

Leon D. Riffel

Leon D. Riffel, 53, is a lifelong Kansas farmer from Enterprise. He has been a Polled Hereford breeder and is involved in the trucking business. Riffel is a member of the National Farmers Union, Kansas Livestock Association, National Farmers Organization and American Agriculture Movement. He is a 4-H advisor and Honorary Chapter FFA Farmer. Riffel was a delegate from the Dickinson County Farmers Union when he was elected to serve as a member of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture from District Three.

Jacob Byron "Jake" Roenbaugh

Jacob Byron "Jake" Roenbaugh, 54, is a lifelong Kansas farmer from Lewis. His farm includes cow-calf, stocker, feeder and quarter horse operations. Roenbaugh is a member of the Kansas Farm Bureau, Kansas Livestock Association; Southwest Kansas Irrigators Association; and Kansas Quarter Horse Association. He is a past president of the Kansas Quarter Horse Association and past winner of the Kansas Bankers Soil Conservation Award. Roenbaugh was a delegate from the Kansas Quarter Horse Association when he was elected to represent District Five on the Kansas State Board of Agriculture in 1985.

Lois Schlickau

Lois Schlickau, 52, operates Schlickau Herefords of Haven along with her husband, George. Schlickau holds an associate of arts degree from Hutchinson Community College. The family farming operation includes wheat, alfalfa, soybeans, corn, milo and Registered Herefords. Schlickau is a member and past president of the Kansas Hereford Auxiliary; member and past president of the American Hereford Auxiliary; member of the state and national CowBelle associations; and director of Kansas Agri-Women. She was the recipient of the first annual "Outstanding Hereford Woman" award from the American Hereford Auxiliary in 1985. Schlickau, the first woman to join the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, was a delegate from the Reno County Fair Association when she was elected to represent District Four on the Board in 1986.

Duane L. Steeples

Duane L. Steeples, 58, has farmed near Zurich for some 40 years. He is a graduate of Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in agricultural education. He left teaching in the Almena school system to join the family farm partnership, Triple S Farms, in the early 1950s. The farming operation includes wheat production and a cow-calf herd. Steeples is a member of the Farmers Co-op, Kansas Farm Bureau, Extension Council, and other activities. He also is active in civic and fraternal organizations. He has received the Bankers Award for Soil Conservation, was Farm Bureau Leader of the Year in 1963; is a past president of the Rooks County Farm Bureau, and three-time winner of the county 4-H Alumni Award. He served as president of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture in 1977. Steeples was a delegate from the Rooks County Farm Bureau when he was elected to represent District Six on the Kansas State Board of Agriculture in 1975.

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Annual Meeting Delegates

Year 1986

ORGANIZATION	D I S T R I C T S						Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	
Board Members	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	12 12
County Fairs	14 6	12 8	12 7	7 3	12 10	8 1	65 35
County Farm Bureaus	15 14	13 13	15 15	13 12	27 20	21 15	104 89
County Farmers Unions	3 1	1 0	7 7	2 2	2 2	2 2	17 14
County Granges	4 4	3 3	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	7 7
State Fair	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Livestock Association	0 0	0 0	2 2	2 2	1 1	0 0	5 5
National Farmers Organization	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS							
Central Kansas Cotton Growers	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	1 1
Highplains Brahman & F ¹ Assn.	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	1 1
Holstein/Friesian Assn	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Angus Assn.	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Agri-Women	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Association of Conservation Districts	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	1 1
TOTAL	39 * 28 **	31 * 26 **	40 * 35 **	28 * 23 **	45 * 36 **	34 * 21 **	217 * 169 **

* Total number allotted

** Number that registered

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Annual Meeting Delegates

Year 1986

ORGANIZATION	D I S T R I C T S						Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	
Kansas Association of Nurserymen	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Ayrshire Breeders	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Brangus Breeders	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Coop Council	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
District 1	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
District 2	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	1 1
District 3	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	1 1
District 4	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	1 1
District 5	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 0	0 0	1 0
District 6	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	1 1
District 7	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
District 8	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Corn Growers	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Crop Improvement	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Dairy Herd Improvement Assn.	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Electric Cooperatives	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	1 1
TOTAL	5 5	1 1	4 4	0 0	3 2	2 2	15 14

* Total number allotted ** Number that registered

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Annual Meeting Delegates

Year 1986

ORGANIZATION	D I S T R I C T S						Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	
Kansas Gelbvieh Association	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Grain Sorghum Producers	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Guernsey Breeders	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Hereford Assn	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Interbreed Dairy Cattle	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Jersey Cattle Club	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Livestock Assn.	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Polled Hereford	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Pork Producers Council	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Poultry Assn	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Quarter Horse Assn	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Rural Water Assn	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Santa Gertrudis Assn	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Sheep Assn	0 0	0 0	1 1	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 1
Kansas Shorthorn Assn	1 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 0
TOTAL	4 3	1 1	9 9	1 1	0 0	0 0	15 14

* Total number allotted

** Number that registered

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

on

THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

February 1986

A group of prominent farmers and ranchers met in Topeka in 1857 and formed the Kansas Agricultural Society to promote agriculture and its kindred arts. The Society's goal was to not only improve Kansas Agriculture, but also to attract immigrants to the state. Then in 1872, the Kansas Legislature established the Kansas State Board of Agriculture from the structure of the Kansas Agriculture Society (K.S.A. 74-501). This was the official beginning of this department as a government agency. At that time, three basic duties were assigned this department by the legislature. Those duties were:

1. To hold an annual meeting to disseminate information on agriculture and for those delegates attending the annual meeting, to elect from their ranks members to the Board of Agriculture.
2. To gather and disperse statistical information pertinent to agriculture.
3. To administer those acts assigned the department by the Kansas Legislature.

From 1872 to the present, this department has grown from a handful of men to one that now has 7 divisions, 2 laboratories, and approximately 320 employees involved in efficient administration of 58 different laws, all of which have been assigned to the department by the Kansas Legislature. Let us briefly review, in chronological order of formation, the divisions and their responsibilities.

In 1872 the Central Office was set up as the administrative office for all activities of the Board of Agriculture. This office is involved in budgeting, personnel, publication of reports, and reviewing, counseling and directing division activities. Central office also acts as a source of agricultural data and information for the executive and legislative branches of government, both state and nationally.

The Statistical Division was next to become a reality. In 1873 the Kansas State Board of Agriculture entered into a cooperative venture with the United States Department of Agriculture to set up a crop and livestock reporting service. Today this is probably one of the better known divisions

and is responsible for Kansas crop and livestock reports.

Following a devastating grasshopper plague in the late 1890s the need for a state entomologist to conduct insect surveys and promote eradication procedures became apparent. The result was formation of the Entomology Division in 1907.

The Control Division was established in 1923. At that time, laws dealing with commercial livestock feeds and the manufacture and sale of fertilizers were transferred to the Board of Agriculture.

In 1925 the Dairy Division was created when the State Dairy Law was transferred to the State Board of Agriculture. Since that time it has been given the responsibility of administering acts designed to regulate conditions under which milk and milk products are produced and processed for human consumption.

The Water Resources Division was developed in 1927 by combining the duties of the Kansas Water Commissioner and Kansas Irrigation Commissioner. Today 23 different laws are administered by this division. Briefly, these laws cover items such as water rights, approval of plans for dams, levees, and stream channel changes, overseeing of interstate water compacts, reviewing formation of groundwater management districts, approving grants to rural water districts, approving plans for organization of watershed and irrigation districts, and approval of plans for water storage dams for tax reduction.

Then the legislature, in 1937, passed the Noxious Weed Law which created the Weed and Pesticide Division. This division supervised county weed programs and assisted in adopting official methods for control and eradication of noxious weeds.

Two divisions, Marketing and Weights and Measures, were established in 1947 when the Kansas Marketing Law was passed and the responsibility for weights and measures work was transferred from the University of Kansas to the Board of Agriculture. The Marketing Division is responsible for the promotion of Kansas agricultural products, and aiding the expansion of international and domestic markets.

The Weights and Measures Division was responsible for laws centering around certification of any product sold or traded by length, mass and/or volume. This division performs such services as certifying scales for accuracy, checking package weights and fluid measures, and testing propane gas meters and linear measures.

1969 saw the passage of the Kansas Meat and Poultry Inspection Act. The Meat and Poultry Inspection Division was developed to administer this program, which calls for the regulation of conditions under which livestock and poultry are slaughtered and processed for human consumption. In addition, antemortem, postmortem and processing inspection of livestock and meat products are required. There are approximately 300 meat packing and processing plants in Kansas today that are under state inspection.

Backing up briefly, a Seed and Chemical Laboratory was built in 1953 and in 1971, a Weights and Measures Laboratory was established. The Chemical Laboratory conducts chemical analysis of samples taken by inspectors in the dairy, meats, weed and pesticides, and control programs. The Seed Laboratory is responsible for seed purity and germination tests, weed seed identification, and plant identification. The weights laboratory is the repository for state standards of mass, length, and volume and the calibration of weights, volume, and linear measures.

Major reorganization has been accomplished during the past three years within the respective divisions of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. In an effort to consolidate activities of similar nature, the inspection functions of dairy, weights and measures, control, eggs, and meat and poultry were combined into a single Division of Inspections. In 1985 in an effort to consolidate the management of activities regarding the safe application of chemicals, the weed and pesticide and entomology divisions were combined into a new Plant Health Division. At the time of these consolidations, a Laboratories Division was established to clearly identify a unit responsible to the other divisions within the agency. Prior to that time, personnel from five separate divisions were assigned to the laboratory without a single management head to oversee the entire activities.

A new major function, Farmers Assistance, Counseling, and Training Service

program, was assigned to the Kansas State Board of Agriculture in 1985. This program provides a Hot Line referral system for farmers who need assistance in the current economic crisis in agriculture. This staff of 6 persons is located on the campus of Kansas State University and was established in cooperation and coordination with the Kansas State University Extension Service.

That briefly covers the various divisions in the Board of Agriculture and their functions. The following paragraphs outline how the board membership and delegate structure developed from its beginning in 1872 to the present.

As stated above, the Kansas Agricultural Society was formed in 1857 by a group of concerned, prominent farmers and ranchers. This society was the forerunner of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture as we know it today. Then in 1872, the Kansas Legislature passed legislation (K.S.A. 74-501) establishing the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. Kansas was the first state in the nation to establish such a department as a branch of state government. It may be of interest to note the second state to form a Department of Agriculture was New Jersey. Their department was structured very similar to the one in Kansas. Additionally, New Jersey has underwent governmental reorganization plans, but has left their department of agriculture as it was established. New Jersey has an 8 man board selected in the same manner as Kansas.

1873 saw the Act (K.S.A. 74-501) that created the Board of Agriculture amended. This amendment established a prerequisite for those organizations sending a delegate to the annual meeting of the board. The prerequisite required that an organization submit a crop report from their area in order to be eligible to send a delegate to the above mentioned annual meeting.

For the next 34 years, there were no further changes made in the Board or delegate structure. Then in 1917, the legislature, through extensive amendments, overhauled the delegate arrangement to the annual meeting. At this legislative session, the majority of the organizations now recognized to send delegates were designated (each state fair or statewide fair; each county farmers institute; each county farm bureau; each association of statewide character representing a particular breed of livestock; and each association of statewide character for promotion of a farm crop, or crops,

whether now organized or hereafter to be organized under the laws of Kansas) and the board structure was also established. The number of board members was tied to the number of Congressional districts in Kansas, with two members to be elected from each. As there were eight Congressional districts in Kansas at that time, the number of board members was set at 16.

The length of term for board members was set at three years and were staggered so that not all board members would be up for reelection at the same time.

In 1931, the legislature added another amendment to K.S.A. 74-501. At this time, the requirement was established that a county farm organization must have a membership of 250 or more to be eligible to send a delegate to the annual meeting. Also, county granges and county farmers unions were added to the list of organizations eligible to send a delegate to the annual meeting.

The same year Congress lowered the number of Congressional districts in Kansas from 8 to 7, thus automatically lowering the number of board members from 16 to 14. Again in 1941, Congress lowered the number of Kansas Congressional districts. This time from 7 to 6 and the result was a lowering of board members from 14 to 12.

Twelve years later, 1953, the Kansas Legislature revised the membership requirements for participating county farm organizations. The new requirement stated that for a county farm organization to be eligible to send a delegate to the annual meeting, they had to have a membership of at least 200, as compared to the original 250. The membership limitation of 200 remained the same until 1982. At that time the membership in county farm organizations was lowered to 100. In the same legislative package, other organizations, such as Kansas Co-op Council districts and Kansas livestock associations, were accommodated. A delegate-at-large provision through petition was also approved.

1961 saw the number of Kansas Congressional districts lowered to five. This would have lowered the number of board members from 12 to 10; however, the board asked the legislature to designate the former 6 Congressional districts as "Agricultural Districts". The legislature did comply with this request and the number of board members was then set at 12, regardless of

changes in Kansas Congressional districts.

Through the years the department has been in a constant process of change in its duties and responsibilities. Since the development of experiment stations, farm organizations and commodity groups, the functions have shifted to three principal areas, as designed by the Legislature:

1. The promotion of agriculture and agricultural products.
2. The responsibility for a number of agricultural services, such as inspection and grading of certain agricultural products.
3. Most important, administration of 58 laws passed by the legislature and assigned to this department.

Since the growth and development of farm organizations and commodity groups, this agency has ceased to delve into policy on national farm programs or other policy matters. That is considered to be a role of farm organizations and commodity groups. Additionally, research and education matters are left to the experiment stations, universities and extension service.

The activities and responsibilities of the board members are:

1. Sets those policies in the manner and methods of performing the duties and responsibilities assigned to this department by the legislature.
2. Meet quarterly to hear and discuss reports from the divisions and their committees.
3. The Board is divided into 6 committees, one for each division and these committees meet on a quarterly basis and are subject to call between regular sessions.
4. Reviews and approves the department's budget prior to its submittal to the Governor and the legislature.
5. Approves selection and hiring of chief management personnel.

6. Reviews and adopts regulations, where authorized or directed, as they pertain to the laws assigned this department.
7. Serve as members of the Board of State Fair Managers.

The executive and legislative branches of government have had and may fully expect to continue to have, full and complete cooperation from this department and its employees.

This department is answerable not only to its board members but to the Governor and the legislature as well. The Governor and legislature have direct control over the budget. In addition, this department has and will continue to fully comply with orders, directives, requests, and other directions received from the Governor and the legislature. Because the Secretary of Agriculture is not appointed by the Governor does not mean the Secretary of Agriculture or the department is or has been uncooperative with the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government or other agencies.

A change in order to effect a more efficiently operated state government that is more responsive to the desires and needs of Kansans is good and necessary; but, a change merely for the sake of change can, while creating the illusion of progress, actually produce confusion and demoralization.

TESTIMONY

to

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

on

EXECUTIVE REORGANIZATION ORDER 21

by

HARLAND E. PRIDDLE
SECRETARY
KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

February 20, 1986

*attachment 2
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.*

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, I will discuss the system for developing agricultural policy in the state and the accountability of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture under its present arrangement. We believe you, the Legislature, have a major role to play in analyzing these two issues. Executive Reorganization Order 21 presents you with a solution and infers that the current arrangement cannot respond in the future. It does not provide you alternatives nor does it provide you specific advantages to be gained by dismantling a system which has proven to be effective, creditable, and responsive in the past as well as continuing to be effective in the future.

First, lets discuss the development of agricultural policy. Before changing the system, we believe, you should conduct an analysis of the current system as well as its past performance and future capabilities. While the role of states is limited in agricultural policy and what can be done, you, the Legislature, as well as the Executive Branch, should be commended for addressing a multitude of issues during the past four years as it relates to agriculture in our state. An analysis of legislative bills introduced into the Legislature since 1982 has revealed 76 different bills. This input has been on an apolitical, bipartisan, broad based, grass roots basis allowing private citizens, legislators, Executive Branch, farm organizations, and other elements to introduce ideas and legislative issues for discussion and possible approval within the state.

In reviewing the farm economy in Kansas and other states, we are providing a report to you indicating there is no correlation between Governor appointed Secretaries, elected Secretaries, or Kansas and the state of their respective farm economies. For example, this Midwest survey reveals Kansas having 12.5% of our farmers with debt to asset ratios 70% or higher. Iowa and North Dakota, states with elected Secretaries, have 16% and 14.7% respectively. Nebraska and Illinois, states with appointed secretaries, have 13.8% and 11.2% of their farmers with debt to asset ratios above 70%. These statistics are only guidelines and emphasize the need to continue to concentrate in the area of development of issues which will relieve our farmers from the great debt load and economic crisis they are now experiencing. It does not, however, imply that we are any worse off than other states. In this regard, we believe the centralization of a policy and planning function into an appointed Secretary could inhibit broad based

input on this nonpartisan basis which we now enjoy. There may be other alternatives, in addition to an appointed Secretary, which could address solutions and continue the bipartisan and broad based grassroots input we now have available to us. For example, this same bipartisan approach was used with the selection of the Governor's Agricultural Working Group in 1982. We assisted and were pleased to work closely with this group. Their efforts were extremely effective and, upon the recommendation of Governor Carlin, resulted in the establishment of a National Agricultural Commission in the 1985 Farm Bill. We reviewed the testimony of Senator Dole at the time of its introduction to the Senate Agriculture Committee and noted that Kansas was lauded as having a model group for addressing agricultural policy and he encouraged other states to follow. We believe that planning and policy placed in a political appointment process is contradictory to that supported and recommended by the Governor, as well as the National Governors Association, for over two years.

The appointment process of executive cabinet level departments is not conducive to continuity or long term planning. I have personally seen a rapid turnover of my colleagues throughout the fifty states during my short four-year term. In this 12-state region in the Midwest, although I have been here only four years, I am the third ranking Secretary of Agriculture in the order of seniority. The neighboring state of Nebraska has had three Directors in the last four years. In the 34 states having Governor appointed secretaries or Governor appointed boards who select the secretary, there have been 26 changes.

In the area of accountability, we are totally accountable to the Executive Branch, as well as the Legislative Branch, and the private citizens of Kansas through the laws we enforce and the dollars we spend. The accountability to you and other legislators links us with all 165 legislative districts and not to the Executive Branch of government alone. We are not generally considered to be separate from state government but as a part of state government. Dignitaries from foreign countries view us as their primary link as a government-to-government contact in conducting business in the areas of agriculture. We take this seriously and with pride on behalf of Kansas and do not consider ourselves outside of state government but being a team member and performing the necessary functions that agriculture should play in our state. I am often asked by you, as well

as others, to give objective and logical comments related to issues you are considering. I believe this nonpartisan input has been helpful to you and provides a system of checks and balances.

We believe agriculture should remain united and be as strong as possible in the future and continue the voice from the grassroots level through an apolitical, broad based concept of administration of agricultural programs. For this reason and based on our proven system of performance, we oppose ERO 21. At this critical time, I challenge all of us to remain positive and develop solutions which will be good for agriculture not only in the short term but in the long term. Agriculture is in transition and needs the best possible unified effort and leadership that we can give it. It is my desire and that of our agency to serve the office of the Governor, you, the Legislature, and the state of Kansas in the best possible way to ensure agriculture remains the number 1 industry in Kansas, the best state in the nation.

FARM FINANCE



Kansas State Board of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture

444 S.E. Quincy, Room 290
Topeka, Kansas 66683

Phone: 913-295-2600

SPECIAL PRESS RELEASE

Released: February 19, 1986

KANSAS FARM FINANCE SURVEY - JANUARY 1986

At the request of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture and with the encouragement of the Governor's office, the Kansas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service conducted a Farm Finance survey to determine the debt-asset situation of Kansas farmers. Results of this survey will provide an evaluation of the regional farm financial situation. Similar surveys were conducted in nine midwestern states during January 1986. The states involved were Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Nebraska, North Dakota and Wisconsin. The Midwest Association of State Departments of Agriculture coordinated the survey through the offices of the State Statisticians to provide comparable information to state and federal officials for development of future agricultural policies and programs. A publication summarizing data for all nine states will be available in early April.

In Kansas, a sample of nearly 5,000 Kansas farms and ranches was randomly selected to provide information from all counties of the State as well as representation of all types of farm operations. Since the questionnaire asked for considerable income and expenditure data many of the respondents could not reply until their records were available from their tax accountants. However, responses were received by mail or telephone from more than 2,500 farm operators and 1,365 were complete and usable for this survey. (See page 6 for number of farms reporting).

Responses included in this summary were geographically distributed in the same ratio as the original sample. Survey results are shown by geographic thirds of the State as well as by type and size of farm, age of operator and gross sales.

The 1982 Federal Census of Agriculture showed the average age of the Kansas farm operator was 51 years; whereas, the average age of operator from this survey was 54.

The reported average size of operation was 791 acres, compared with the 1985 USDA report of 667 acres per farm. The average value per acre of real estate assets, including the farm residence, for those farm operators owning any acreage was \$441 per acre. The USDA average value per acre for all land and buildings as of April 1, 1985 was \$466, down from an average of \$583 per acre in 1984.

Farm income data presented in this report do not have an allowance for depreciation. Gross sales are receipts of all agricultural commodities sold during 1985. Farm expenditures included the cost of feed, fuel, interest, taxes, seed, fertilizer, chemicals, vet supplies, etc., but no capital investments. The various types of farms were classified by the major sales commodity contributing most of the gross agricultural sales for each farm.

HIGHLIGHTS

Poultry and dairy operations showed the highest net cash farm income, \$18,861 and \$16,294, respectively. Beef was the lowest at \$5,344. Other livestock (mostly sheep and horses) and beef operations had the highest off-farm income.

Age of operator had little impact on income except for those over 65 where income from both on and off-farm sources was greatly reduced.

Size of farm and gross sales were positively related with net cash farm income while off-farm income generally decreased with size.

Net cash receipts from farming in Kansas averaged \$10,727 in 1985 and ranged from \$5,990 in the eastern third of the State to \$25,771 in the western third. Depreciation was not included in this calculation.

Statewide, 57 percent of the total income per farm came from off-farm sources. This varied from 26.5 percent in the west to 72.4 percent in the east.

KANSAS FARM INCOME AND EXPENSES

ITEM	Gross Value Of Sales, All Farms	Expenditures, All Farms	Net Cash Receipts From Farm- ing 1/	Off-Farm Income	Total Income (Net Cash Receipts + Off-Farm Income)	Net Cash Receipts
						As % Of Total Income
					DOLLARS	PERCENT
TYPE OF FARM						
Crops	\$ 62,268	\$ 49,202	\$13,066	\$12,149	\$25,215	51.8
Beef	88,323	82,979	5,344	17,898	23,242	23.0
Dairy	107,338	91,044	16,294	4,658	20,952	77.8
Swine	81,359	71,240	10,119	15,703	25,822	39.2
Poultry	132,213	113,352	18,861	4,719	23,579	80.0
Other Livestock	50,446	42,561	7,886	23,970	31,856	24.7
All Other	63,441	53,502	9,939	16,517	26,456	37.6
TOTAL ALL FARMS	70,352	59,625	10,727	14,217	24,944	43.0
AGE OF OPERATOR						
Under 35 Years	74,362	58,772	15,590	12,842	28,432	54.8
35 - 44	96,200	85,829	10,370	19,680	30,050	34.5
45 - 54	87,850	78,322	9,528	17,911	27,438	34.7
55 - 64	74,115	62,070	12,045	14,497	26,542	45.4
65+	30,474	22,150	8,323	7,379	15,702	53.0
TOTAL ALL FARMS	70,352	59,625	10,727	14,217	24,944	43.0
SIZE OF FARM						
1-9 Acres	2,018	850	1,168	20,200	21,368	5.5
10-49	12,220	11,505	715	24,819	25,534	2.8
50-179	9,262	7,863	1,400	19,675	21,075	6.6
100-499	25,018	20,376	4,642	15,947	20,589	22.5
500-999	65,961	54,157	11,804	10,097	21,901	53.9
1,000-1,999	120,539	101,757	18,782	8,350	27,132	69.2
2,000+	333,652	289,975	43,677	8,747	52,424	83.3
TOTAL ALL FARMS	70,352	59,625	10,727	14,217	24,944	43.0
GROSS SALES						
Less than 10,000 Dol.	4,537	4,580	(43)	20,385	20,342	0
10,000 - 39,999	21,530	17,919	3,612	14,981	18,593	19.4
40,000 - 99,999	63,417	49,639	13,778	9,438	23,216	59.3
100,000 - 249,999	152,823	124,717	28,106	8,319	36,426	77.2
250,000 - 499,999	346,368	259,477	86,891	8,519	95,411	91.1
500,000	979,310	952,874	26,436	13,256	39,693	66.6
TOTAL ALL FARMS	70,352	59,625	10,727	14,217	24,944	43.0

ITEM	WEST	CENTRAL	EAST	STATE
PERCENTAGE OF SAMPLE FARMS REPORTING	26.7%	27.8%	28.2%	27.8%
GROSS SALES PER FARM	\$157,547	\$62,394	\$45,175	\$70,352
EXPENDITURES PER FARM	\$131,776	\$52,574	\$39,185	\$59,625
NET CASH RECEIPTS FROM FARMING 1/	\$ 25,771	\$ 9,820	\$ 5,990	\$10,727
Percent of Total Income	73.5%	40.3%	27.6%	43.0%
OFF-FARM INCOME	\$ 9,283	\$14,571	\$15,724	\$14,217
Percent of Total Income	26.5%	59.7%	72.4%	57.0%
TOTAL INCOME PER FARM 1/	\$ 35,054	\$24,391	\$21,714	\$24,944
TOTAL DEBT PER FARM	\$164,269	\$91,036	\$61,687	\$89,873
INTEREST PAID ON FARM LOANS				
All Farms	\$17,371	\$ 8,462	\$ 6,041	\$ 8,841
Percent of Gross Sales	11.0%	13.6%	13.4%	12.6%
Percent of Total Expenditures	13.2%	16.1%	15.4%	14.8%
Percent of Total Debt	10.6%	9.3%	9.8%	9.8%

1/ No allowance made for depreciation.

Real assets per farm averaged \$282,451 for all farms and \$314,426 for farms with debt. Western Kansas asset values were more than double those in the east.

Total debt per farm averaged \$131,065 for those farms with debt. Western Kansas farm debt averaged more than double the debt in the east.

The debt/asset ratio was 31.8 for all farms and 41.7 for farms with debt. Farms with debt had somewhat higher ratios in the east than in the west.

The value of real estate assets averaged \$170,582 per farm and accounted for 60.4 percent of the total assets. Real estate debt per farm averaged \$49,932 and accounted for 55.6 percent of the total debt.

Machinery and livestock assets averaged \$70,456 per farm and accounted for 24.9 percent of total assets. Machinery and livestock debt, at \$26,910 per farm, was 29.9 percent of the total debt.

KANSAS FARM ASSETS AND DEBTS

ITEM	WEST	CENTRAL	EAST	STATE
TOTAL ASSETS PER FARM				
All farms	\$492,590	\$270,274	\$215,869	\$282,451
Farms with debt	\$522,060	\$310,975	\$222,739	\$314,426
TOTAL DEBT PER FARM				
All farms	\$164,269	\$91,036	\$61,687	\$89,873
Farms with debt	\$206,249	\$131,021	\$96,758	\$131,065
DEBT/ASSET RATIO				
All farms	33.3	33.7	28.6	31.8
Farms with debt	39.5	42.1	43.4	41.7
REAL ESTATE				
Asset value per farm	\$288,906	\$166,002	\$131,172	\$170,582
Percent of total assets	58.6%	61.4%	60.8%	60.4%
Debt per farm	\$84,604	\$50,737	\$36,574	\$49,932
Percent of total debt	51.5%	55.7%	59.3%	55.6%
MACHINERY AND LIVESTOCK				
Asset value per farm	\$142,119	\$64,455	\$49,310	\$70,456
Percent of total assets	28.9%	23.8%	22.8%	24.9%
Debt per farm	\$59,933	\$23,972	\$17,312	\$26,910
Percent of total debt	36.5%	26.3%	28.0%	29.9%
STORED CROPS, FEED, SEED AND SUPPLIES				
Asset value per farm	\$25,398	\$11,842	\$8,544	\$12,593
Percent of total assets	5.2%	4.4%	4.0%	4.5%
Debt per farm	\$12,524	\$6,651	\$3,866	\$6,363
Percent of total debt	7.6%	7.3%	6.3%	7.1%
ALL OTHER ASSETS AND DEBTS				
Asset value per farm	\$36,166	\$27,974	\$26,844	\$28,819
Percent of total assets	7.3%	10.4%	12.4%	10.2%
Debt per farm	\$7,208	\$9,675	\$3,935	\$6,668
Percent of total debt	4.4%	10.7%	6.4%	7.4%

Some 51.2 percent of all farms had real estate loans, 57.4 percent had non-real estate loans.

Of the farms with real estate loans, three percent were current on interest, but delinquent on principal; 7.9 percent were delinquent on both interest and principal.

The Federal Land Bank was the leading source of real estate loans accounting for 47.0 percent of the total.

Of the farms with non-real estate loans, 3.6 percent were current on interest, but delinquent on principal; 8.7 percent were delinquent on both interest and principal.

Commercial banks were the leading source of non-real estate loans accounting for 62.4 percent of the total.

Sources of real estate and non-real estate loans are shown on page 5 by age of operator.

KANSAS FARM LOANS BY TYPE AND SOURCE

ITEM	WEST	CENTRAL	EAST	STATE
REAL ESTATE LOANS				
Percent of all farms with real estate loans	56.1	51.8	48.9	51.2
Percent of farms with loans current on interest, delinquent on principal	4.7	2.6	2.6	3.0
Percent of farms with loans delinquent on interest and principal	6.3	6.3	9.9	7.9
SOURCE OF REAL ESTATE LOANS				
Commercial Banks	18.1	18.4	14.8	17.2
Farmers Home Administration	8.7	11.2	17.3	12.3
Federal Land Bank	49.0	43.3	49.7	47.0
Small Business Administration	0.0	0.3	0.9	0.5
Insurance Companies	0.7	8.3	1.1	3.8
Private Individuals	19.4	14.6	10.8	14.8
Others	4.1	3.9	5.4	4.4
NON-REAL ESTATE LOANS				
Percent of all farms with non-real estate loans	68.6	59.5	51.5	57.4
Percent of farms with loans current on interest, delinquent on principal	4.5	3.8	2.3	3.6
Percent of farms with loans delinquent on interest and principal	5.8	8.1	10.7	8.7
SOURCE OF NON-REAL ESTATE LOANS				
Farmers Home Administration	1.9	3.4	9.9	4.8
CCC Loans	11.9	13.6	11.6	12.3
Commercial Banks	64.5	63.1	58.2	62.4
Production Credit Association	10.2	2.4	2.9	5.2
Small Business Administration	0.0	0.1	0.9	0.3
Suppliers and Dealers	5.9	4.8	5.2	5.2
Private Individuals	3.8	5.8	6.9	5.5
Others	1.8	6.8	4.0	4.3

SOURCE OF REAL ESTATE LOANS BY AGE OF OPERATOR

Age	Comml. Bank	FmHA	Fed. Land Bank	Sm. Bus. Admin.	Ins. Co.	Private Individual	Other
	PERCENT						
Under 35	21.9	17.3	37.8	0.7	0.0	15.9	6.4
35 - 44	15.2	14.8	40.2	0.1	2.9	20.7	6.1
45 - 54	17.4	9.2	47.7	0.4	5.9	16.8	2.6
55 - 64	19.5	11.8	53.6	0.9	1.4	7.6	5.2
65+	12.1	8.6	62.4	0.0	10.0	5.9	1.0
STATE	17.2	12.3	47.0	0.5	3.8	14.8	4.4

SOURCE OF NON-REAL ESTATE LOANS BY AGE OF OPERATOR

Age	FmHA	CCC	Comml. Bank	Prod. Credit Assoc.	Sm. Bus. Admin.	Sup. & Dealers	Priv. Ind.	Other
	PERCENT							
Under 35	6.6	14.8	60.8	2.7	0.2	6.0	7.2	1.7
35 - 44	6.1	12.5	56.7	2.1	0.1	5.9	8.4	8.2
45 - 54	5.0	12.3	63.6	9.0	0.6	3.5	3.8	2.2
55 - 64	2.9	8.5	68.5	5.0	0.3	6.3	4.4	4.1
65+	0.7	16.6	70.1	6.4	0.0	3.9	0.6	1.7
STATE	4.8	12.3	62.4	5.2	0.3	5.2	5.5	4.3

The Federal Land Bank was the major source of real estate loans for all ages of farmers, but especially so for older farmers. Younger farmers made more use

of commercial banks, the Farmers Home Administration and private lenders.

Age did not seem to be much of a factor in determining source of non-real estate loans.

KANSAS FARM OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS

ITEM	WEST	CENTRAL	EAST	STATE
PERCENT OF FARMERS WITH DEBT/ASSET RATIO				
Less than 40	68.1%	67.9%	70.6%	69.2%
40 to 69	21.7%	20.2%	15.6%	18.3%
70 and larger	10.2%	11.9%	13.8%	12.5%
AVERAGE AGE OF FARM OPERATOR				
	54	53	54	54
AVERAGE YEARS OPERATING FARM				
	28	27	27	27
AVERAGE ACRES IN FARM OPERATION				
	1,678	757	495	791
PERCENT OF FARMERS QUITTING IN 1986				
	3.1	4.0	7.8	5.6

KANSAS FARM OPERATOR CHARACTERISTICS

ITEM	Total No. of Farms Reporting	% of Farms With Debt/Asset Ratio			Average Age of Farm Operator	Average Years Operating Farm	Av. Acres In Farm Operation	Percent of Farmers Quitting in 1986
		Less Than 40	40-69	70 and Larger				
		PERCENT			YEARS		ACRES	
TYPE OF FARM								
Crops	752	70.2	18.6	11.2	54	29	839	5.2
Beef	325	75.1	14.1	10.8	54	27	803	6.4
Dairy	31	42.0	22.5	35.5	49	27	543	6.4
Swine	39	64.1	20.5	15.4	46	20	464	10.3
Poultry	7	85.7	14.3	0	52	22	162	0.0
Other Livestock	24	62.5	25.0	12.5	50	19	326	0.0
Other & General	187	60.4	22.5	17.1	52	27	765	5.3
TOTAL ALL FARMS	1,365	69.2	18.3	12.5	54	27	791	5.6
AGE OF OPERATOR								
Under 35 Years	150	42.0	29.3	28.7	30	9	810	6.0
35 - 44	243	43.2	32.5	24.3	40	14	885	7.0
45 - 54	278	64.4	21.6	14.0	50	22	966	3.2
55 - 64	365	78.6	14.3	7.1	60	33	828	4.7
65 +	329	94.2	4.6	1.2	71	45	522	7.3
TOTAL ALL FARMS	1,365	69.2	18.3	12.5	54	27	791	5.6
SIZE OF FARM								
1-9 Acres	5	80.0	20.0	0.0	59	22	3	20.0
10-49	85	84.7	12.9	2.4	51	18	29	7.0
50-179	281	81.5	9.6	8.9	57	28	116	7.8
180-499	375	74.9	16.6	8.5	56	29	327	5.1
500-999	272	64.7	19.5	15.8	53	29	717	4.4
1,000-1,999	238	52.5	25.7	21.8	50	26	1,381	5.0
2,000+	109	52.3	32.1	15.6	50	26	3,648	3.7
TOTAL ALL FARMS	1,365	69.2	18.3	12.5	54	27	791	5.6
GROSS SALES								
Less than 10,000 Dol.	393	85.2	9.4	5.4	57	26	145	6.1
10,000-39,999	426	73.0	17.6	9.4	56	30	445	4.9
40,000-99,999	300	62.7	21.3	16.0	51	27	1,005	7.6
100,000-249,999	184	47.8	27.7	24.5	48	26	1,750	3.8
250,000-499,999	36	41.7	38.9	19.4	52	27	2,865	2.8
500,000+	26	26.9	34.6	38.5	46	24	4,070	0.0
TOTAL ALL FARMS	1,365	69.2	18.3	12.5	54	27	791	5.6

some 12.5 percent of the Kansas farms had debt-asset ratios of 70 or larger-- "very highly leveraged" and likely to have problems meeting principal and interest payments. This ratio was higher in the east than in the west.

A total of 5.6 percent of farmers reported they would quit in 1986. This ranged from 3.1 percent in the west to 7.8 percent in the east.

Dairy farms had the highest percent with debt-asset ratios exceeding 70, with 35.5 percent in that category.

Debt-asset ratios decreased as age of operator increased. Some 28.7 percent of those under 35 had debt-asset ratios exceeding 70 while only 1.2 percent of those over 65 had ratios exceeding 70.

Debt-asset ratios tended to increase with size of farm and gross sales, but not uniformly so.

COMPARISON OF DEBT TO ASSET RATIOS FOR ALL FARMS AMONG NINE STATES

States	Average Gross Sales, Dollars	Average Debt/Asset Ratio	Percent of farmers with debt/asset ratios			Percent Quitting in 1986
			Less Than 40	Between 40 and 69	More Than 69	
			PERCENT			
Illinois	\$ 89,286	30.8	70.6	18.2	11.2	5.0
Iowa	112,220	36.9	61.7	22.1	16.2	4.9
KANSAS	70,352	31.8	69.2	18.3	12.5	5.6
Michigan	77,665	28.6	76.9	17.6	5.5	4.3
Missouri	42,251	24.7	78.8	14.1	7.1	6.0
Nebraska	117,921	34.3	63.2	23.0	13.8	6.4
North Dakota	95,946	34.7	62.2	23.1	14.7	3.0
Ohio	59,424	21.2	82.8	12.6	4.6	5.0
Wisconsin	94,115	26.2	74.7	18.7	6.6	4.4

The above table shows selected data for the nine states conducting a Farm Finance Survey in January 1986. Out of the nine states, Kansas ranked seventh in value of average gross sales per farm. Nebraska had the largest average gross sales per farm and Missouri the smallest. For average debt/asset ratio, Kansas ranked sixth; Iowa had the highest ratio and Ohio the lowest. Kansas was also sixth in the percent of farmers with debt/asset ratio less than 40. Kansas maintained that same ranking for those with

debt/asset ratio greater than 69. During 1986, 5.6 percent of the Kansas survey respondents indicated they will quit farming for various reasons, usually retirement, poor health or bad financial conditions. North Dakota farmers indicated only 3.0 percent will quit during 1986, while 6.4 percent of the Nebraska farmers will quit.

Additional comparative data for the nine states will be available in another release in early April.

as State Board of Agriculture
Statistics Division
444 S. E. Quincy, Room 290
Topeka, Kansas 66683

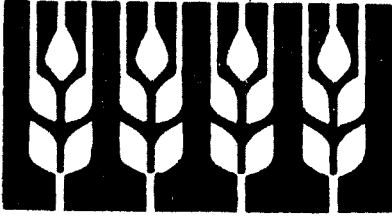
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*
* A very special word of thanks is due the several hundred Kansas *
* farmers who responded to this survey. Their willingness to pro- *
* vide detailed financial data made this report possible. *
* *
* Kansas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service *
* *

Glazala Hassan
Governor's Fellow

M. E. Johnson, State Statistician
W. H. Kastens, Asst. State Statistician

KANSAS ASSOCIATION
OF WHEAT GROWERS



Kansas Senate Committee on Agriculture and Livestock

Thursday, February 20, 1986

Hearing for opponents to Executive Reorganization Order 21

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Del Wiedeman. I am a farmer from Wakeeney, and I am currently serving as President of the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers. I am here today to present my views as a farmer, as an elected delegate to the Kansas Board of Agriculture, and as the elected spokesman for the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers.

There are so many reasons to oppose Governor Carlin's proposed reorganization of the Board of Agriculture, it is difficult to decide where to begin, so I will try to cover a few important points, and allow others to speak to different aspects of the issue.

First of all, the issue of policy planning and implementation: I believe the present structure of the Board of Agriculture is well suited to implementation of policy developed through the legislative process, as evidenced by their effective administration of the F.A.C.T.S. program which was proposed by the Governor, and enacted by the Legislature. I believe the present Board of Agriculture is also well suited to implementation of policy developed internally, as evidenced by the various divisions and programs that have evolved throughout the history of the Board, in response to proven needs of the people of Kansas.

The "From the Land of Kansas" program of the Marketing Division is evidence of a highly successful implementation of internal policy which was developed to carry out the legislative charge of the Kansas Marketing Law, to promote Kansas agricultural products. Further proof of Board of Agriculture marketing policy implementation is shown by Secretary Priddle's trips to other states and many foreign countries. Harlan Priddle's name may not be on the lips of every urban housewife, but when it comes to promotion of agriculture and agricultural products, the Secretary of the Kansas Board of Agriculture is a respected leader.

As a participant in the Board of Agriculture selection process, I would like, next, to speak to that issue.

The best way to describe the charge that two large farm organizations dominate the Board of Agriculture, is that it is a myth. The number of farm groups that are eligible to participate, the present make-up of the Board, and the fact that most farmers belong to two or more organizations should be proof enough. Although the K.A.W.G. is presently allowed only one delegate,

several of our board members were delegates the last two years, representing other farm organizations. The procedure has changed over the years, and can still be improved, but the principle of representative delegates electing the Board is the essence of "government of, by and for the people."

I must add that the method of choosing a Secretary by a thorough search and interview process, including the Board, and the Governor, which is followed by a vote of the Board, is not only fair and democratic, but it is very professional as well.

Is the selection political? In the sense that there is a vote, and that it is a representative process, the answer is yes. However, it remains apart from partisan politics, and thereby avoids the negative aspects of having to campaign for votes, and being tied to one party's philosophy.

Would an appointed Secretary be more accountable to the people? The present Secretary is accountable to the Board, to the Governor, and to the Legislature, and through them, to the people they represent. An appointed Secretary would answer only to the Governor, who is answerable to the people only once every four years.

Should the Secretary be more accountable to "all of the people?" I have two answers. First, I don't believe the vast majority of non-farm citizens are concerned about who is Secretary of Agriculture. Secondly, I would quote Governor Carlin, himself, from his news release dated September 16, 1982. In announcing the formation of an Agricultural Working Group to explore policy direction for the federal government, he said, "The short-term failures strung together over the last fifty years must be replaced with the long-range solutions for the next fifty. The time has come for more direction to the federal government's farm policy. And I strongly believe that direction should come from those of us in control of the production of agricultural commodities. It should come from farmers." end of quotation.

Those short-term failures have come as the result of changing administrations, and short-term leadership in the USDA. They have come from policies that have been dictated by other members of the President's Cabinet, by the Office of Management and Budget, and by the President, with little or no responsiveness to the producer.

We in the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers agree with the statement Governor Carlin made in 1982. We believe it applies equally to Kansas. The direction for Kansas agriculture should come from professionals who really know the industry, and can speak from hands-on experience when discussing possible effects of proposed policies; in short, from farmers.

We feel that the present Board of Agriculture is a modern, state-of-the-art tool, which is doing an efficient and effective job of carrying out the direction given it by the Legislature. We feel it is perfectly capable of responding with equal effectiveness to new directives.

For those reasons, and for many more, I urge you to disallow Governor Carlin's Executive Reorganization Order 21.



PUBLIC POLICY STATEMENT

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

RE: Executive Reorganization Order No. 21

Topeka, Kansas
February 20, 1986

Presented by:
Paul E. Fleener, Director
Public Affairs Division
KANSAS FARM BUREAU

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

We appreciate the opportunity to address the Senate Agriculture Committee in regard to Executive Reorganization Order (ERO) No. 21, transmitted to you by Governor John Carlin on February 10, 1986.

My name is Paul E. Fleener. I am the Director of Public Affairs for Kansas Farm Bureau. We are a general farm organization. Our members are farmers and ranchers in each of the 105 County Farm Bureaus in this great state.

Mr. Chairman, the topic under discussion today is the State Board of Agriculture. The State Board of Agriculture was created by the Legislature, in laws passed in 1872, amended in 1873, again in 1917, and in several other years when the Legislature found a need to redirect the activities of the State Board of Agriculture. Note the State Board was created in 1872. Please know the Kansas Farm Bureau came into existence in 1919. Since that time the Legislature has seen fit for Farm Bureau to join with other

attachment 4
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.

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agricultural organizations whose membership of farmers and ranchers in the counties of this state is sufficient to warrant nomination of delegates to the Annual Meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. The Executive Reorganization Order would change the process of this quasi-independent State Board of Agriculture. It would place it within the Executive Branch of Government and would provide that it be headed by a cabinet level Secretary of Agriculture.

Over the years our members have watched closely, encouraged frequently, offered constructive criticism on, and tried to be of assistance to the State Board of Agriculture and the various divisions created by those of you in the Legislature, or to programs developed by those of you in the Legislature and assigned to the State Board for the assistance of farmers and ranchers and for the advancement of agriculture, the foundation of this state's economy.

We come to you today, Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Committee, to speak in opposition to Executive Reorganization Order No. 21. We urge this Committee and the Kansas Senate to take the appropriate step, in accordance with Sub-section (c) of Section 6 of Article 1 of the Constitution of Kansas to **disapprove** ERO 21.

We believe the Kansas Legislature has, through the years, carefully delineated and appropriately specified the duties, powers and responsibilities of the State Board of Agriculture and support agencies which have been created and assigned to the State

Board of Agriculture. The statutes you have written are clear in the direction given to divisions within the State Board of Agriculture.

Our members have studied the issue of Executive Reorganization many times in the history of the State Board of Agriculture. This is not the first time an Executive Reorganization Order has been proposed. Each time our farmers and ranchers have studied this issue they have found the system to be meritorious. It is at an arms length from the Governor, from the Legislature, but **always** subject to the direction of the Legislature through appropriations and other statutory measures. Our members, again privileged to know that an Executive Reorganization Order would be proposed by Governor Carlin, studied this issue last Fall, discussed and debated it at some length in Open Discussion and the Business Session held in connection with our Annual Meeting, November 23-26, 1985. Upon reexamination the delegates from 105 County Farm Bureaus reaffirmed the following policy position:

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

The present Kansas method of electing a State Board of Agriculture, which board employs the administrative head of the State Department of Agriculture, is unique among the states. We believe a close study of the history of the Department of Agriculture in Kansas will reveal that agriculture, and indeed the whole state, has been well served because the Department has never been placed in a partisan political position. For that reason, we will support a continuation of the present system.

Mr. Chairman, with your permission I will share with this

Committee a thought advanced long ago by Thomas Aquinas, who knew more about education and persuasion than almost anybody who ever lived. He said once "that when you want to convert someone to your view, you go over to where he is standing, take him by the hand (mentally speaking), and guide him to where you want to go." He also said, "You don't stand across the room and shout at him. You don't order him to come over to where you are. You start where he is and work from that position."

When you think someone is wrong, and you disagree with him, the first task is to determine in what way he is right. Someone said once that is not as paradoxical as it sounds. No view can be entirely wrong. Everybody has a little piece of the truth. This is the piece we start with. We work from there, and concede as much as we honestly can.

We would tell the Members of this Committee that the Governor's Executive Reorganization Order deserves your consideration. He believes he is right. We think the existing system is right. I have had enough Political Science to concede that on an organizational chart it **looks good** to see a system such as that proposed in ERO 21. I have also seen enough of the practical side of the political world to know that this present system is one of stability, integrity, and is not subject to the day-to-day **whims** of the "political process." Oh yes, it is subject to the process of examination, discussion, debate, amendment, and statutory direction. It is subject to appropriations available to carry on the duties you prescribe. But the present system works

well and we support it.

In testimony by proponents, all of whom are pure in motive and sincere in desire, there was reference made to one portion of the duties and responsibilities of one division, created by this Legislature and assigned to the State Board of Agriculture ... the Division of Water Resources. What apparently was unknown, or overlooked by the particular conferee was the fact that this Legislature in 1981, **disapproved** another Executive Reorganization Order proposed by the Governor ... a reorganization that would have consolidated all of the Water Agencies in the state. But the Legislature did not simply reject the Reorganization Order. It recognized, as we do today, some merit in some portions of the proposal. The merit is for the Legislature to examine on a continuing basis the duties and responsibilities you assign to the State Board of Agriculture or **any other** agency. If you find it necessary to redirect the activities or programs, that is your prerogative. The Legislature in 1981 created the Kansas Water Office (KWO), the Kansas Water Authority (KWA), and assigned specific responsibilities. The Kansas Water Authority is representative of the entire population through appointment recommendations made from agriculture, from municipalities, from business, from industry, from rural water districts, from users all over the state, and from citizens at large.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, we have supported a number of the programs and policies advanced by the Governor and by various Legislators to assist and improve the climate for

agriculture in Kansas. This Legislature has created within the State Board of Agriculture a Marketing Division. That Marketing Division has significant responsibilities assigned to investigate the subject of marketing of farm products, to promote their sales and distribution. That's a **positive** program. The Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture has been to China twice, to our Sister State/Province ... Henan to promote agriculture. The Secretary has been to Europe. Members have been to other parts of the world seeking to find markets for Kansas agricultural commodities.

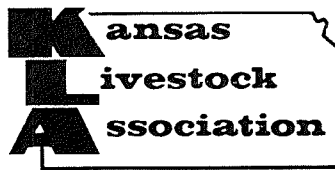
In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, we would make reference to another very positive step. That was taken by Governor Carlin. On September 16, 1982, Governor Carlin created an Agriculture Working Group. He did so in Hutchinson at the Kansas State Fair. That Working Group was charged with the general responsibility to make recommendations to the Governor concerning:

1. The needs, goals, aspirations and concerns of farmers and agri-business persons;
2. Marketing strategies, practices and options;
3. Current structure, statutes, regulations and programs of both the federal government and the State of Kansas.

The Working Group devoted most of its time to federal agricultural programs and policy endeavors. The Working Group recommended and many of the agricultural organizations in this state, **including** Kansas Farm Bureau, again through farmers and ranchers who were voting delegates to our Annual Meeting in 1982, made the recommendation that what this country really needs is a

long-term agricultural policy. The Working Group made it possible for anyone within agriculture or agri-business to have input by the 12 meetings conducted from September, 1982 through June, 1983. We had an opportunity to present our views to the Working Group. We, again through our policy development process, examined some of the same things the Working Group looked at. Our delegates endorsed the long-term policy supported by the Working Group. I would like to share with you some other thoughts from the Working Group and I will quote directly from the report of that Group.

Let us say to you that we appreciate this chance to be heard. We appreciate your discussion and study of the issue before you. We ask you to proceed to adopt Senate Resolution 1878, a measure **disapproving** Executive Reorganization Order No. 21. Thank you for this opportunity to appear.



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Testimony on Behalf
of the
Kansas Livestock Association
on
Executive Reorganization Order No. 21

before
Senate Agriculture Committee
Sen. Jim Allen, Chairman

submitted by
Mike Beam
Executive Secretary, Cow-Calf/Stocker Division
Kansas Livestock Association

February 20, 1986

The Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) is a trade organization made up of approximately 9,500 members located in all of the 105 counties in Kansas. KLA, founded in 1894, has members who are actively involved in numerous aspects of livestock production and include cow-calf/stocker producers, feeders, sheep producers, swine operators and general farming and ranching enterprises. On December 6, 1986, at KLA's 73rd annual convention the membership adopted a policy resolution in opposition to the objective of ERO 21.

The State Board of Agriculture has three basic functions. These functions are: 1) the promotion of agriculture and agricultural products; 2) conducting agricultural services, such as inspection and grading of certain agricultural products; and 3) the administration of 58 laws passed by the legislature. KLA believes this is the proper role of State Board of Agriculture. We oppose Executive Reorganization Order No. 21 because this plan would significantly change the role of the current Board of Agriculture. I appreciate the opportunity to point out some of our specific concerns which are contained in ERO 21.

SECRETARY APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR

By now it's a well known fact that Board members of the State Board of

*attachment 5
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.*

Agriculture elect and hire the Secretary who is the chief staff person for this branch of government. The Board is comprised of 12 farmers and ranchers, elected by hundreds of delegates, who represent state and county farm or commodity organizations, co-ops, and fair associations. Although KLA had only five delegates of the 255 which attended the January 1986 convention we feel the Board election process is fair, equitable and a healthy method of identifying state agricultural leaders from many diverse segments of agriculture. Kansas agriculture is quite diverse and the make up of the 1986 Board reflects a diversification of ag groups from all geographic locations. Since these Board members represent a cross section of agriculture, and have been approved by their fellow farmers and ranchers, it seems appropriate that these individuals are the most qualified for hiring and directing the chief staff person for the State Board of Agriculture.

Repealing the Secretary selection process, as proposed in ERO 21 could easily be abused and change the basic function I described earlier which is promotion of agriculture and agricultural products. If the Secretary of Agriculture was appointed by a Governor, this basic and important function could change to promoting the candidacy of a governor.

BOARD SERVES IN ADVISORY CAPACITY

Section 4 of the reorganization order would change the role of the 12 Board members to strictly an advisory capacity. I've mentioned earlier that the system today produces quality and respected agricultural leaders from all parts of the state. Board members currently are responsible for setting policy in the manner and methods of performing the duties and responsibilities assigned to the Board of Agriculture.

One responsibility is to oversee the state meat inspection program. Our particular industry has a large stake in the success and integrity of this program. No one, or one group, is more concerned about the safety, wholesomeness and quality of red meat than farmers and ranchers involved in the production of such a commodity. I assure you that Board members and livestock producers are sensitive to any potential concerns by our customer, the consumer. In our opinion, the state agency which regulates many aspects of the agriculture industry should indeed be controlled by the state's farmers and ranchers who serve on the State Board of Agriculture. If consumers of agricultural products have a concern, you can bet the Board (farmers and ranchers) will take the necessary and expedient steps to assure this state's consumers are adequately protected.

POLICY AND PLANNING OFFICE CREATED

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, our biggest concern with ERO 21 is the creation of an office of Policy and Planning within a newly organized Department of Agriculture. If this were to happen it would result in a major deviation from the current functions of the State Board of Agriculture and could easily cause a negative impact to Kansas agriculture.

It's not by accident that the Secretary of Agriculture is not advocating major agriculture policy proposals at the state or national

level. The Kansas Livestock Association firmly believes that agricultural policy development belongs in the hands of private organizations and not tax supported or state funded agencies.

As everyone knows, there are numerous farm and commodity organizations active at the state and national level. These groups are all in existence for a good reason. In agriculture and other industries as well, there's a wide range of philosophies among producers and ag service related organizations. Agriculture today is much different than it was a century ago when most producers looked at general farm organizations as their tool for voicing policy in legislative and regulatory arenas.

The Kansas Livestock Association is the proper entity for being the spokesperson for Kansas livestock producers. Since our group represents primarily beef cattle producers there's a definite need for organizations such as the Kansas Pork Producers Council and Kansas Sheep Association. Because our organization is funded with voluntary contributions (membership dues) the policies which we articulate will be much more representative of producers' viewpoints and concerns than a Secretary of Agriculture who has the resources generated by taxes or fees. If a livestock producer who is a dues paying member of KLA disagrees with the Association's policy, he will most likely try to convince his peers to change the policy and direction, or quit paying his membership dues. If an organization's officers and staff are off base or not adequately representing its membership, the organization will soon suffer from revenue loss and eventually be non-existent. This is one reason ag groups will be much more responsive to farmers' and ranchers' interests and should be the only entities who advocate ag policy on behalf of farmers and ranchers.

CONCLUSION

The Kansas Livestock Association sincerely appreciates Governor John Carlin's intentions in the submission of this executive reorganization order. We firmly believe that the Governor, his staff and some farmers or ranchers believe this plan is in the best interest of Kansas agriculture. The fact remains that the Kansas Livestock Association, most farm organizations and the vast majority of farmers and ranchers are opposed to this approach. We believe the structure and function of the State Board of Agriculture is the proper role of this Kansas agency. For that reason, we urge the Kansas Senate to vote for the disapproval of the Executive Reorganization Order No. 21.

Committee of . . .

Kansas Farm Organizations

Kathy Peterson
Legislative Agent
2301 S.W. 33rd Street
Topeka, Kansas 66611
(913) 267-4356

TESTIMONY OF
KATHY PETERSON
COMMITTEE OF KANSAS FARM ORGANIZATIONS
FOR
SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 20, 1986

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I am Kathy Peterson, legislative agent for the Committee of Kansas Farm Organizations. We are a group of 21 Kansas farm organizations who work together for the betterment of agriculture in the state of Kansas. Our members are: The Associated Milk Producers, Kansas Agri-Women, Kansas Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Kansas Association of Wheat Growers, Kansas Cooperative Council, Kansas Corn Growers Association, Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Kansas Ethanol Association, Kansas Farm Bureau, Kansas Fertilizer and Chemical Association, Kansas Grain and Feed Dealers Association, Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas Livestock Marketing Association, Kansas Meat Processors Association, Kansas Pork Producers Council, Kansas Seed Dealers Association, Kansas Sheep Association, Kansas Soybean Association, Kansas State Grange, Mid-America Dairymen and the Kansas Veterinary Medical Association.

As you can see from the list of member organizations, CKFO has the participation of a broad spectrum of farming organizations. And, as you may know, before the CKFO takes a position on any issue it does so only if the position has the unanimous support of the members. It is because of that bylaw, we are able to speak in a united voice on agricultural issues.

I appear before you this morning to report that the proposed reorganization of the Kansas Board of Agriculture is unanimously opposed by the Committee of Kansas Farm Organizations. It is the overwhelming belief that the benefits of retaining our current Board of Agriculture far outweigh those that could come with a change.

*attachment 6
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.*

You have heard from many individuals this morning who have discussed the merits of retaining our current system. I won't repeat all of those persuasive points. Instead, in an effort to summarize the crucial issues that surround the proposal, I'd like to focus on the basic issue of the ERO.

To us that issue is whether or not agriculture needs more governmental involvement. The issue is as simple as that. Under the current system, agricultural policy is set in a democratic manner. To replace this with a pure political system would indeed be a mistake. We need only look to Washington to understand the problems involved with politicizing farm policy.

Under our current system, the Secretary of Agriculture is not a political post. The Board is not a Republican board nor a Democrat board. It is a Kansas Board of Agriculture, answerable to all Kansans, not merely to one political party or another.

It can be assumed that the supporters of the reorganization order believe that more government involvement in agriculture is to agriculture's benefit. If that were the case, would the supporters also agree that the government's 1980 grain embargo was good for agriculture?

We believe the opposite to be true. It is farmers, not governments, who best know and understand the problems facing agriculture.

In closing, I quote a 1982 press release from the Office of the Governor. It states: "The time has come for more direction to the federal government's farm policy. And I strongly believe that direction should come from those of us in control of the production of agricultural commodities. It should come from farmers."

Mr. Chairman we believe that was true in 1982 and it remains true today. We therefore urge your rejection of Executive Reorganization Order 21.

#####

September 5-14, 1986

20th & Poplar
Hutchinson, Kansas 67502
(316) 662-6611

ROBERT GOTTSCHALK
Executive Secretary

ELMER K. DENNING
Assistant Secretary



*The Great Kansas
Got Together!*

EXECUTIVE REORGANIZATION ORDER NO. 21

TESTIMONY

to

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

by

ALTIS FERREE
PRESIDENT
BOARD OF STATE FAIR MANAGERS

February 20, 1986

Board of Managers

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Haddam, 66944

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Zurich, 67676

*attachment 7
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.*

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I am Altis Ferree, President of the Board of State Fair Managers, from Yates Center.

The portions of ERO No. 21 relative to the fate of the Kansas State Fair, if this Order is to become reality, are most difficult for average Kansans to understand.

From its inception, the emphasis of ERO No. 21 has been trained on the Reorganization of one Agency of the State, the State Board of Agriculture. There are some hidden aspects of the Order, and the effects and ramifications that are proposed relative to the operation of another State Agency known as the Kansas State Fair, that are dramatic.

Sections 5, 6, & 7 of ERO No. 21 proposes to attach the Kansas State Fair to the State Board of Agriculture. The failure to give adequate mention to such a significant change, has allowed for little if any publicity, and therefore only a few recognize the effects. I can assure you that the effects would be dramatic, and could well destroy a system that has worked so well for the past 75 years. The effects of attaching the Kansas State Fair to the Department of Agriculture will be covered by testimony to follow.

If the composition of the Board of State Fair Managers is to be expanded, in respect to a wider base of representation, it would appear that such recommendations should be accomplished through the Legislative Process. The Board of State Fair Managers would welcome the opportunity to cooperate in an interim study, similar to the 1974 interim study that sought to create a better working relationship between the Kansas State Fair and its local Hutchinson, Reno County neighbors. Though HB 2006, considered by the 1975 Legislature for approval failed, its general recommendations have been addressed in numerous ways by the Board of State Fair Managers.

One of the necessary ingredients in a successful State Fair operation, is the interest, support, and involvement by those it serves. The Kansas populace needs to be able to feel a sense of ownership. This attitude is continually promoted by the Board of State Fair Managers, to insure

such a posture prevails. People make a fair, but the most significant fact is that a fair must belong to those who participate.

Kansas State Fair Executive Secretary, Bob Gottschalk, is a past president of the Mid West Fairs Association, current board member of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions and Zone Director for the States of Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, and Kansas. Secretary Gottschalk is a Charter Board Member of the Travel Industry Association of Kansas, a current member and past chairman of the Hutchinson/Reno County Convention Visitors Bureau, and an exofficio member of the Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce. Such involvement seeks to promote and improve the fair's operations, maintain local relationships, and assist in the policy making aspects of the Fair Industry. Such participation is encouraged and is evident throughout the Fair's Board, the staff and administration.

In conclusion, I would like to recommend, on behalf of the Board of State Fair Managers, that the ERO No. 21 be disapproved.

LOIS
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September 5-14, 1986

20th & Poplar
Hutchinson, Kansas 67502
(316) 662-6611

ROBERT GOTTSCHALK
Executive Secretary

ELMER K. DENNING
Assistant Secretary



*The Great Kansas
Get Together!*

EXECUTIVE REORGANIZATION ORDER NO. 21

TESTIMONY

to

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

by

JOHN OSWALD
PAST PRESIDENT AND MEMBER
BOARD OF STATE FAIR MANAGERS

February 20, 1986

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Haddam, 66944

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Haven, 67543

DUANE STEEPLES
Zurich, 67676

*attachment 8
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.*

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, my name is John Oswald, and I speak to you as a concerned Kansan. Speaking from the experience of serving 12 years on the State Board of Agriculture and the Kansas State Fair, I would like to present these views to you.

The selection process of the Secretary: During my 12 years on the Board we selected two secretaries. Bill Duitsman was selected after a long process of interviewing and checking with many people. The Governor was kept well informed, as well as legislators. I had several calls from legislators concerning Bill.

The same process was used for selecting Harland Priddle. He visited with the Governor before the Board acted on his selection. We have always had the Governor involved in the selection process.

The Kansas State Fair, a great tradition in Kansas, is truly an agricultural event. It's a fair that draws 300,000 to 400,000 people. It's a fair that lasts for ten days. Six of the last seven years were in the black. Compare it to the Nebraska State Fair where the government invested over one million dollars in 1984 to the operation budget.

It is a fair that involves many Kansan's working together. Over 700 people take time from their busy schedules, work for very low wages, because they believe in the Kansas State Fair.

Management for the Fair comes from 13 people that represent Kansas and help make the Fair a show place. Many visitors from all over the nation come to the Fair to see how we make it so successful.

New ideas are always invited. We try many of them. 4-H, FFA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, people from all walks of life exhibit.

The keys to the Fair are many. Community support, statewide support, weather, but the main ingredient is the management, incomparable when you consider 10 days, \$2,500,000 business. Under the reorganization plan, the management would be an appointed job.

I have heard and read many articles concerning this proposal, but have not heard a positive reason that will improve the existing duties that are presently being fulfilled.

John C. Oswald

September 5-14, 1986

20th & Poplar
Hutchinson, Kansas 67502
(316) 662-6611

ROBERT GOTTSCHALK
Executive Secretary

ELMER K. DENNING
Assistant Secretary



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EXECUTIVE REORGANIZATION ORDER NO. 21

TESTIMONY

to

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

by

ROBERT A. GOTTSCHALK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
KANSAS STATE FAIR

February 20, 1986

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Zurich, 67676

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2/20/86 Sen. Ag.*

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members, I am Bob Gottschalk, the Executive Secretary of the Board of State Fair Managers. As Administrative Head of the Kansas State Fair Agency, responsible for the day-to-day operation, of not only the State Fair, but all non-fair and off-season events using the Physical Plant of the State Fairgrounds, I would like to point out the disasterous effect ERO No. 21 would have on the Kansas State Fair.

Section 5 of the Order, proposes to attach the State Fair Agency, as well as the Fair Board, to the Department of Agriculture. If the proposed follows that of other states, that have attached their State Fairs to their Departments of Agriculture, we must assume that the Fair would be another division of the Department of Agriculture. Such a proposal would do away with the separate State Agency, The Kansas State Fair, Agency 373. This proposal appears to have been made with little or no background on the current Kansas State Fair operation.

The uniqueness of a fair operation from the fiscal standpoint alone, is not compatible with any other agency within the state system. One of the unique aspects that is common among many state fairs, and to the Kansas State Fair, is the funding of the total operation from fees generated.

The site of a fair's operational base, must be at its fairgrounds, which in Kansas, is in Hutchinson. Thus, administration of an agency by long distance, Hutchinson to Topeka, would become a major point to consider. The Kansas State Fair has statute authority to contract with a wide variety of vendors, with stage performers, with service providers, and has legal concerns not normally found in other agencies. All of these programs would eventually need to be filtered through yet another administrative level of government for authorization. In a great number of instances, immediate action is necessary, and decisions need to be made, whether day or night, holiday or weekend.

Capital Improvements to the State's property, the State Fairgrounds Physical Plant, is a major Fair Program. The Department of Agriculture

does not generally budget for Capital Improvements in such numbers. The expansion of the Department of Agriculture's budget to include the Fair would give the impression to the taxpaying public, of a sizeable increase in total expenditures, and could be held as a criticism by the general public.

The Fair's total operational system is complex enough, without adding an unrelated function to an already complex Department of Agriculture. It would appear an increase in employee positions would be necessary for the Department of Agriculture to consume the State Fair's fiscal, personnel, advertising, legal, and other related responsibilities. The efficiency that has been accomplished by subdividing the Fair operation into programs, would surely be in jeopardy.

Other unique aspects, not enjoyed by fairs attached to a State's Department of Agriculture, are such things as banking authority, emergency purchasing, maintenance and construction projects. The legislature currently has the opportunity to easily monitor such proposed expenditures. These aspects hardly appear to align under an agency such as the Department of Agriculture. It is assumed the Fair's budget would become part of the Department of Agriculture's budget. It would also follow that the autonomy of operating on generated fees would be diluted, and tax dollars would eventually be necessary to support the operation. When this results, incentives are destroyed, and efficiency declines or disappears.

If the emphasis is to incorporate more nonagriculture interests in an effort to improve, then to include input from areas such as commerce and tourism, would be agreeable. However, it is difficult to imagine how the elimination of the State Fair as an agency, and placing it under the Department of Agriculture, whose interests are geared more to agriculture than nonagriculture, would accomplish this.

In closing, I would like to point out that at no time during the composition of ERO No. 21, were the Board of State Fair Managers, its administrators and its staff, ever officially consulted on such proposals. which

are not in keeping with the theme of the Kansas State Fair, to improve the Kansas State Fair as a service of state government. Had this been done, time and money spent, could have been eliminated.

On behalf of the Board of State Fair Managers, the Kansas State Fair, and its many supporters, I want to thank you for the opportunity to testify and I would recommend the Kansas State Fair operation be left in its present form.



KANSAS FERTILIZER AND CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

Box 1392

Hutchinson, Kansas 67504-1392

316-662-2598

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STATEMENT OF THE
KANSAS FERTILIZER AND CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION
TO THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

SENATOR JIM ALLEN, CHAIRMAN

REGARDING E.R.O. NO. 21

FEBRUARY 20, 1986

Chairman Allen and members of the Committee, I am Mike Kleiber, President of the Kansas Fertilizer and Chemical Association (KFCA), which represents the retail dealers, handlers, and manufacturers who comprise the state's agriculture fertilizer and chemical industry. I am also the owner/operator of Ag Service, Inc. at Hillsboro, Kansas.

My business and those of the other KFCA members are significantly regulated by laws administered by the State Board of Agriculture. While we are very much affected by the Board's activities, we do not qualify to send delegates to the annual meeting, so are not a part of the process of selecting the members of the Board. Nonetheless, we strongly support retaining the Board's present structure and thus must oppose E.R.O. 21.

We are an Association that has welcomed additional regulation which we believed would strengthen our industry and benefit the public, such as the Chemigation Safety Law and the Pesticide Dealer Registration Act passed last session. The employees of the Board of Agriculture who administer such laws are outstanding professionals, who have dealt with us fairly and objectively, in the same manner as they have those who are involved in the selection process of the Board.

attachment 10
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.

Should the E.R.O. become effective, several levels of the Board's professionals, who have tremendous knowledge and expertise, would be replaced with political appointees. We feel this would be detrimental to the people of Kansas.

We feel the Board's present structure provides for strong, effective administration of the state's laws. We also believe the present method of appointment of the Secretary of Agriculture, which involves many people and organizations , is a good one.

We urge you to pass S.R. 1878, disapproving E.R.O. No. 21.

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Testimony of
Nancy E. Kantola
Executive Vice President
Kansas Cooperative Council
to
Senate Agriculture Committee
February 20, 1986

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Agriculture Committee for this opportunity to bring you the views of the membership of the Kansas Cooperative Council.

We are particularly interested in Governor Carlin's proposed reorganization of the Board of Agriculture because our participation in the board's annual meeting is somewhat recent.

Thanks to your actions, in 1982, the co-ops were brought under the law prescribing selection of delegates. Our Secretary of Agriculture, Harland Priddle, dedicated to having an informed election process traveled to all nine of our district meetings that spring, and was joined by members of the board in several districts, to let our farmer members know about the goals, duties and administrative functions of the Board of Agriculture.

The following fall, each district selected a delegate to attend the annual meeting, and reported on that meeting to the district membership at their spring meeting. The procedure of electing delegates in the fall and having them report in the spring has been followed since that time. The farmers who go to represent the co-op districts have taken it upon themselves to meet together so those who have attended before can brief the new delegates and discuss issues which may be raised in the respective caucus meetings.

*attachment 11
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.*

They pay nothing to join the co-op, there is no "poll tax" to attend, and they are not controlled by any sponsoring group or organization. We do not know their party affiliation. They are generally, but not required to be, directors on a co-op board and they are all active producers.

We feel the process of selecting the Board of Agriculture and the hiring of a qualified person as secretary is a fair and equitable process to assure that the best interests of agriculture are served regardless of the party in power.

We like the continuity of the administration and have concerns about this non-partisan process taking on political overtones through the proposed change. Please disapprove Executive Reorganization Order No. 21.

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MASON D. FLORA, HARVEYVILLE, WABAUNSEE COUNTY 2-20-86

BACKGROUND--

Past president, Kansas Assn. of Conservation Districts, Chairman Wabaunsee County Soil Conservation District for 25 years. Served on several KACD legislative committees. Past president Wabaunsee Co. Dairy Assn. & Cattlemans Assn. Charter member State Assn. of Kansas Watersheds. Presently executive director of Wakarusa Watershed Joint District #35 and have been for over 20 years.

Served as president of Wabaunsee Co. Farm Bureau, been active 38 years. Now serving as chairman of State Legislative Affairs.

Served as cooperater for National weather Service for 40 years, still serving.

Chairman of Republican Central Committee of Wabaunsee County. Formerly Chairman of Wabaunsee Co. Assessment and Taxation committee.

Live on farm near Harveyville and also in seed business in town of Harveyville.

Can see no need to change the structure of the State Board of Agriculture. This is a dedicated agency that over the years has contributed much to the entire field of agriculture, including agri-business.

I have worked with Jake Mohler, Roy Freeland, Bill Duitsman, Harlan Priddle and many of the personnel for forty years and have found all of them to be outstanding in dedication and performance.

After so many years experience in soil conservation and watershed districts, I know that we would have accomplished much less without their help. If the Secretary were a political appointee, this position would be subject to the whim of the governor and the work of the State Board of Agriculture would be jeopardized.

My father, S. D. Flora, was Federal Meteorologist for the State of Kansas and served as "Officer by Appointment" (unpaid) for over 40 years and worked with Secy. Mohler in compiling the book called "Climate of Kansas".

As a delegate to the State Board of Agriculture annual meeting several times, it has been my privilege to help to elect the Board of Directors. I am proud of the caliber of the people who have served over the years.

This statement is to urge this committee to reject ERO #21 in accordance with Senate Resolution #1878.

attachment 12
2/20/86 Sen. Ag.