

Approved April 6, 1987
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND SMALL BUSINESS

The meeting was called to order by Representative Clifford V. Campbell at
Chairperson

9:05 a.m. ~~p.m.~~ on March 19, 1987 in room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representatives Beauchamp, Goossen, Hamm, Dean, Solbach and Teagarden, who were excused.

Committee staff present: Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes Office
Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Pat Brunton, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Don Montgomery, State Senator, Kansas
Dale Lambley, Director, State Board of
Agriculture, Division of Plant Health
Chris Wilson, Kansas Fertilizer and Chemical
Association

Senator Montgomery explained Senate Bill 74 and stated that this bill would be most beneficial along the state line as it would permit a private certified applicator from another state to apply pesticides in Kansas.

Dale Lambley testified in favor of SB 74 stating that this amendment would allow establishment of reciprocity between Kansas and adjoining states so that farmers who own farm properties on both sides of the state line would not be required to take pesticide exams in both states in order to purchase restricted use pesticides. He further stated that the law already accords this same right to commercial pesticide applicators.
Attachment I.

Chris Wilson testified in favor of SB 74 stating this would be a good policy to permit private certified applicators the same right as the commercial pesticide applicators.

Representative Apt made a motion to recommend Senate Bill 74 for passage and that it be put on the Consent Calendar. Representative Neufeld seconded and the motion passed.

Representative Apt made a motion to introduce a Resolution pertaining to problems with ruling in regards to sodbusting. Representative Neufeld seconded and the motion passed. This Resolution urges the United States department of agriculture to modify its definition of busting sod to not include the plowing of alfalfa, Attachment II.

Representative Roenbaugh made a motion to introduce a Resolution commemorating and honoring agriculture day in Kansas on March 20, 1987. Representative Gross seconded and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

The next meeting of the House Agriculture and Small Business Committee will be Monday, March 23, 1987, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 423-S.

TESTIMONY

Senate Bill 74

PRESENTED TO

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

AND SMALL BUSINESS

by

Dale Lambley, Director
Kansas State Board of Agriculture
Division of Plant Health

March 19, 1987

ATTACHMENT I
March 19, 1987

Senate Bill 74

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE KANSAS PESTICIDE LAW

March 19, 1987

Senate Bill 74 amends the Kansas Pesticide Law and addresses the area of private applicator certification. In brief, this amendment allows establishment of reciprocity between Kansas and adjoining states so that farmers who own farm properties on both sides of the state line would not be required to take pesticide exams in both states in order to purchase restricted use pesticides. We support this amendment because the law already accords this same right to commercial pesticide applicators.

As things now stand, to be a certified private applicator, a farmer who has fields on both sides of the state line would be required to travel to the county seat in his home county in Kansas, take training and an examination from the county extension agent, then travel across the state line to the adjoining county and take a second set of training and examinations. Conversely, a Missouri farmer who owns land on both sides of the border faces similar problems. Senate Bill 74 allows a farmer in this situation to become certified in his home state and in the reciprocating state based upon the test scores in his home state.

This bill would have no fiscal impact upon the agency because the State Board of Agriculture is already involved with processing of certificates for the affected individuals. We also anticipate no adverse affects upon the private applicators. In fact, the bill should provide some benefit to them because they would not be required to go to two different places to take examinations to obtain the necessary private applicator certification.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. _____

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the United States department of agriculture to modify its definition of busting sod and urging the Congress of the United States to adopt legislation permitting farmers to rotate alfalfa planted on highly erodible land without economic penalty.

WHEREAS, Farmers are encouraged to conserve our precious natural resources of soil and water; and

WHEREAS, The rotation of cropland with the planting of alfalfa and other legumes has been encouraged in the past by the United States department of agriculture and the soil conservation service; and

WHEREAS, Highly erodible land rotated to alfalfa has been considered a soil conserving technique in the past by the soil conservation service; and

WHEREAS, The current interpretation of the "sodbuster" rules of the 1985 farm bill penalizes farmers rotating alfalfa land back to crops; and

WHEREAS, Kansas farmers stand to lose millions of dollars in federal farm program benefits if the definition of busting sod is not changed to exclude the plowing of alfalfa: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That we urge the United States department of agriculture to modify its definition of busting sod to not include the plowing of alfalfa; and

Be it further resolved: That we urge the Congress of the United States to adopt legislation permitting farmers to rotate alfalfa planted on highly erodible land without economic penalty and forfeiture of federal farm program benefits; and

Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of State be

directed to send enrolled copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, Ronald Reagan; Senator Patrick Leahy, Chairman, Senate Agriculture Committee, 433 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; Representative E. (Kika) de la Garza, Chairman, House Agriculture Committee, 1301 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Richard Lyng, Secretary of Agriculture, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20250; and each member of the Kansas Congressional Delegation.