

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Joann Flower at 3:30 p.m. on February 3, 1999, in Room 423-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Flora - excused

Committee staff present: Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department
Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes
Kay Scarlett, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Senator Steve Morris

Bill Fuller, Associate Director, Public Affairs Division, Kansas Farm Bureau

Doug Wareham, Vice President of Government Affairs, Kansas Grain and Feed Assn. (written only)

Jim Yonally, Kansas Society of Land Surveyors

Others attending: See attached list

Chairperson Flower asked for requests for introduction of committee bills. Representative Schwartz had two requests for introduction of concurrent resolutions. She asked for a concurrent resolution urging Congress to investigate mergers in agribusiness as these mergers limit availability of competition for feed, seed, fertilizer, and local marketing opportunities. Representative Schwartz moved to introduce her request as a House Concurrent Resolution. Seconded by Representative Freeborn, the motion carried. (Attachment 1)

Representative Schwartz asked for a concurrent resolution urging Congress to act on providing increased funding for guaranteed loan funds for the Guaranteed Operating Farm Ownership Program. Representative Showalter moved to introduce this request as a House Concurrent Resolution. The motion, seconded by Representative Dahl, passed. (Attachment 2)

Representative Dahl requested a committee bill to allow the Department of Wildlife and Parks to issue life-time fur harvesting licenses as they already issue life-time hunting and fishing licenses. Representative Dahl moved that his request be introduced as a committee bill. Seconded by Representative O'Brien, the motion carried.

Hearings on:

SCR 1602 - Concurrent Resolution by Special Committee on Ag Rail Transportation urging USDA to use the export enhancement program more, and

SCR 1605 - Concurrent Resolution by Agriculture urging Congress to remove or restrict the use of trade sanctions

Chairperson Flower opened hearings on **SCR 1602** and **SCR 1605**. Senator Steve Morris, Senate Agriculture Committee chairman and vice-chair of the legislative interim Special Committee on Ag Rail Transportation, encouraged passage of these two resolutions. He said that **SCR 1605** and **HCR 5005** were identical resolutions requested by the interim Special Committee on Ag Rail Transportation urging Congress to remove or restrict the use of trade sanctions as they apply to agricultural products. He explained that the amendment added to **SCR 1605** in the Senate would urge Congress to also work for the reduction or elimination of trade barriers and sanctions imposed by other countries against agricultural products.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, Room 423-S Statehouse, at 3:30 p.m. on February 3, 1999.

Senator Morris explained that SCR 1602 urges the Secretary of the US Department of Agriculture to provide increased opportunities to the farmers of the United States by taking greater advantage of the Export Enhancement Program. He said that if the Kansas farmer is to have the opportunity to prosper and grow, agricultural products must be able to reach foreign markets, and that the Export Enhancement Program is one tool which can expand foreign market opportunities. Senator Morris reported that he had sent copies of SCR 1602 and SCR 1605 to various state Agriculture Committee chairs.

Bill Fuller, Associate Director, Public Affairs Division, Kansas Farm Bureau, testified in support of SCR 1602 and SCR 1605. He said that exporting more agricultural commodities and halting the use of trade sanctions are actions that are absolutely essential to the economic viability of farmers and ranchers in Kansas and the United States. He reported that farmers and ranchers at Farm Bureau's American Farm Bureau Federation last month expressed strong support for the Export Enhancement Program when they adopted new policy that states: 1) Congress should fully fund the Export Enhancement Program and USDA should utilize all of the funds appropriated, and 2) All agricultural products should be eligible for access to the EEP fund. Kansas Farm Bureau supports the Senate amendments to these resolutions. (Attachment 3)

Doug Wareham, Vice President of Government Affairs, Kansas Grain and Feed Association, submitted written testimony in support of SCR 1605 urging Congress to remove or restrict the use of trade sanctions as they apply to agricultural products produced in Kansas and the United States. (Attachment 4)

The committee asked Raney Gilliland, Legislative Research Department, to draft a letter to the US Secretary of Agriculture to accompany SCR 1602 requesting an accounting of the Export Enhancement Program.

Chairperson Flower closed the hearings on SCR 1602 and SCR 1605.

The Chair asked if there were other requests for introduction of committee bills. Debra Duncan, Animal Facilities Inspection Director, Animal Health Department, requested two committee bills. Her first request would add goats, llamas, poultry, birds, nonhuman primates, and ferrets to the list of domestic animals included in the contagious or infectious diseases act. It was moved by Representative Johnson and seconded by Representative Weiland to introduce this request as a committee bill. The motion carried. (Attachment 5)

Ms. Duncan's second request concerned several changes the Animal Health Department wishes to make in the definition section of the Kansas Pet Animal Act. Representative Weiland moved to make the request for these changes in the Kansas Pet Animal Act a committee bill. Seconded by Representative Freeborn, the motion carried. (Attachment 6)

Hearing and possible action on HB 2042 - Adverse possession actions, land survey ordered by court

Chairperson Flower reopened the hearing on HB 2042. Jim Yonally representing the Kansas Society of Land Surveyors testified that while the organization had no problem with the concept of the bill, they oppose having a land survey determine ownership of disputed property owned less than 15 years. He stated that they are in agreement with the amendments suggested by the Kansas Bar Association.

Following committee discussion, Representative Feuerborn moved to table HB 2042. Seconded by Representative Fabor, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 1999.

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STATE OF KANSAS



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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
MEMBER: HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS
HOUSE AGRICULTURE &
NATURAL RESOURCES BUDGET
HOUSE AGRICULTURE
HOUSE ENVIRONMENT

Concurrent Resolution

Introduced by Rep. Schwartz

House Agriculture Committee

Concurrent resolution urging Congress to further investigate mergers in agribusiness. These mergers limit availability of competition for inputs such as feed, seed, fertilizer and local marketing opportunities. Kansas family livestock and grain producers are faced with increasing limited sources of suppliers as well as local markets. The merging of agriculture businesses such as feed suppliers and grain merchandisers, poses a threat to the availability of marketing options for Kansas farmers.

*House Agriculture Committee
February 3, 1999
Attachment 1*

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NATURAL RESOURCES BUDGET
HOUSE AGRICULTURE
HOUSE ENVIRONMENT

Concurrent Resolutions

Introduced by Rep. Schwartz

House Agriculture Committee

Concurrent Resolution urging Congress to act on providing increased funding for guaranteed loan funds for the Guaranteed operating Farm Ownership Program. This additional funding for the unsubsidized Guaranteed Farm Ownership loan program, would allow banks and lenders to work with customers to restructure debt over a longer period of time to help farmers meet their immediate financial needs.

This would also give banks a vehicle through which they could provide credit to farmers during a critical time in U. S. Agriculture. According to USDA, 15 states already have used up USDA-guaranteed farm ownership funding money. Today Kansas has approximately 17Million available for guaranteed operating loans. This 17 million will reach around 170 farms. The average FSA operating loan is approximately \$100,000.

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February 3, 1999
Attachment 2*



PUBLIC POLICY STATEMENT

HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

SCR 1602 – Urges the Secretary of USDA to utilize the Export Enhancement Program.

SCR 1605 – Urges Congress to remove or restrict the use of trade sanctions on agricultural products.

**February 3, 1999
Topeka, Kansas**

**Prepared by:
Bill R. Fuller, Associate Director
Public Affairs Division
Kansas Farm Bureau**

Representative Flower and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, my name is Bill Fuller. I am the Associate Director of the Public Affairs Division for Kansas Farm Bureau.

We certainly appreciate this opportunity to testify in support of SCR 1602 and SCR 1605. Exporting more agricultural commodities and halting the use of trade sanctions are actions that are absolutely essential to the economic viability of farmers and ranchers in Kansas and the United States. These are the actions called for by the resolutions this committee is considering today.

Passage of "Freedom to Farm" by the U.S. Congress in 1996 allowed farmers to make management decisions based upon market demands and the capabilities of the land they farm. That was a dramatic change from farming in the past to meet

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Attachment 3*

government allotments and acreage restrictions in order to qualify for loan rates, deficiency payments and other government subsidies.

The most important key to the success of farming for the market is the opportunity for our American farmers to have access to the world markets. The implementation of trade sanctions destroys market opportunities for U.S. farmers. The message we shared with you earlier this week when we testified in support of HCR 5005 also applies to SCR 1605 that is under consideration today.

SCR 1602 calls for the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture to utilize the Export Enhancement Program to encourage foreign governments to purchase U.S. agricultural products. The refusal of this administration to even modestly utilize the resources that are available for export enhancement is unacceptable.

The farmers and ranchers representing the 50 state Farm Bureau's at the American Farm Bureau Federation last month expressed strong support for the Export Enhancement Program when they adopted new policy that states:

- ◆ Congress should fully fund EEP and USDA should utilize all of the funds appropriated.
- ◆ All agricultural products should be eligible for access to EEP fund.

How serious is this lack of commitment for export marketing today? Export spending, including the EEP, has declined 99 percent from the 1993-95 time period to the 1996-98 time period. During that same era U.S. wheat exports declined 25 percent (see attachment).

Today, U.S. farmers and ranchers must compete in the world market. In order to have the opportunity for success, perhaps even survival, our agricultural producers must have open access to those global markets.

We encourage passage of SCR 1602 and SCR 1605. We will respond to any questions you may have. Thank you!

fiscal year	Export	crop year	U.S. Wheat Exports		Kansas Wheat Price (\$ per bushel)
	Spending* (millions \$)		All Wheat (millions of bushels)	HRW	
1993	\$ 2,193	1992	1,354	464	\$3.15
1994	\$ 1,950	1993	1,228	486	\$3.09
1995	\$ 1,361	1994	1,188	422	\$3.47
1996	\$ (422)	1995	1,241	384	\$4.96
1997	\$ 125	1996	1,001	286	\$4.42
1998	\$ 329	1997	1,040	358	\$3.17
1993-95	\$ 1,835		1,257	457	\$3.24
1996-98	\$ 11		1,094	343	\$4.18
% change	-99%		-13%	-25%	29%

* Export spending is the total of all spending on export programs including the Export Enhancement Program

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**Statement of the
Kansas Grain and Feed Association
Regarding
S.C.R. 1605
to the
House Agriculture Committee
Representative Joann Flower, Chair
February 3, 1999**

**KGFA, promoting a viable business
climate through sound public policy for more
than a century.**



*House Agriculture Committee
February 3, 1999
Attachment 4*

The following statement is submitted on behalf of the Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA). The KGFA is a voluntary state association with a membership encompassing the entire spectrum of grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in the state of Kansas. Our membership includes over 1,250 Kansas business locations and represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state.

KGFA supports Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1605, which calls for Congress to remove or restrict the use of trade sanctions as they apply to agricultural products produced in Kansas and the United States. Today, Kansas grain producers and the Kansas grain receiving, storing and processing industry truly compete on a worldwide scale for market opportunities for Kansas grown commodities. With the advent of new technologies in agricultural production, the need to create new markets and capture world market share will become even more important to the Kansas grain trade and their farmer customers in the future.

Currently, economic sanctions imposed by the United States Congress directly impede the ability of Kansas commodities to reach numerous countries around the globe. Congress should restrict the use of sanctions against agricultural products to situations where positive results are a certainty. To do otherwise only jeopardizes the economic viability of the Kansas and U.S. grain production industry.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this written statement. If you have questions or require additional information please contact Doug Wareham, KGFA Vice President of Government Affairs at (785) 234-0461.

1999

9rs0641

PROPOSED BILL NO. _____

By

AN ACT concerning contagious or infectious diseases among domestic animals; amending K.S.A. 1998 Supp. 47-635 and repealing the existing section.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 1998 Supp. 47-635 is hereby amended to read as follows: 47-635. The provisions of this act shall not be construed to include any other than contagious or infectious diseases among the domestic animals of this state; but they shall be construed to include all contagious or infectious diseases among all kinds of domestic animals including but not limited to horses, mules, asses, cattle, sheep, goats, llamas, swine, dogs, cats, poultry, birds, nonhuman primates, ferrets, domesticated deer, as defined in K.S.A. 47-1001, and amendments thereto, all creatures of the ratite family ~~that are not indigenous to this state,~~ including but not limited to ostriches, emus and rheas, and exotic animals as defined by rules and regulations in 9 C.F.R. 1.1, pursuant to 7 U.S.C. § 2131 et seq. The state livestock commissioner is given the same power over any domestic animal afflicted with rabies as is conferred upon the livestock commissioner in relation to other diseases of domestic animals.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 1998 Supp. 47-635 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

*House Agriculture Committee
February 3, 1999
Attachment 5*

STATE OF KANSAS
KANSAS ANIMAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner

708 SW Jackson, Topeka Kansas 66603-3714

Phone 785/296-2326 FAX 785/296-1765

February 3, 1999

Chairman Flower and Members of the House Agriculture Committee:

The Kansas Animal Health Department wishes to make changes to K.S.A. (1998 Supp.) 47-1701, the definition section of the Kansas Pet Animal Act as follows:

Section (g) of the Act defines pound and shelter in a number of different ways including "a person who collects and cares for unwanted animals or offers them for adoption." The agency wants to clarify this section to indicate that animal fostering groups or individuals who foster animals for a pound and shelter can act under one license – they do not have to each be licensed separately.

A definition of "animal foster" will need to be included in this section.

A definition of "adoption" needs to be included in this section.

Section (dd)(1) "Adequate veterinary medical care" means:

- (A) A documented program of disease control and prevention, euthanasia and routine veterinary care shall be established and maintained under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian, on a form provided by the commissioner or on a form promulgated or approved by the United States Department of Agriculture, and shall include a documented on-site visit to the premises by the veterinarian at least once a year; and
- (B) That diseased, ill, injured, lame or blind animals shall be provided with veterinary care as is needed for the health and well-being of the animal.

Section (dd)(2) states: "As used in the Kansas pet animal act, "adequate veterinary medical care" shall not apply to United States Department of Agriculture licensed animal breeders or animal distributors. The agency wants to delete this language and substitute the language added in section (dd)(1)(A) above.

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Attachment 6*