

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Faber at 3:30 P.M. on February 19, 2007, in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

## Committee staff present:

Raney Gilliland, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Emalene Correll, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jason Thompson, Revisor of Statutes  
Florence Deeter, Committee Assistant

## Conferees appearing before the committee:

Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association  
Steve Swaffar, Kansas Farm Bureau  
Keaton Kelso, Kansas Outfitters Association  
Ken Corbet, Kansas Sport Hunting Association  
Chris Tymeson, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks  
Howard Rodenberg, Director of Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Kent Crow, citizen  
Duane Simpson, Vice-President of Government Affairs, Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Constantine Cotsoradis, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture  
Leslie Kaufman, Kansas Cooperative Council

## Others attending:

See attached list.

Staff Raney Gilliland briefed the Committee on **HB 2437**, saying the bill extends the sunset provision for four years, allowing landowners and tenants to transfer deer permits to nonresidents.

The Chairman opened the hearing on **HB 2437** - nonresident deer permits, extending the sunset provisions.

Mike Beam, Kansas Livestock Association (KLA), testified as a proponent (Attachment 1). He said many KLA members have supplemented their income by conducting hunting activities on their land, a venture that requires nonresident permits in order to be economically viable. He recommended that the sunset provision be extended until a more permanent system can be adopted and placed in statute.

Steve Swaffar, Director of Natural Resources, Kansas Farm Bureau, spoke in favor of the bill (Attachment 2). He stated that adequate deer herd management is necessary to prevent excessive crop and property damage, management to which this bill contributes. He noted that other legislation promoted by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) may make it through the legislative process, but the uncertainty of its passage and uncertainty of its final provisions makes extension of the present law advisable.

Keaton Kelso, President, Kansas Outfitters Association, also spoke as a proponent, saying that the landowner-transferable deer permits are good for landowners and increase the revenues for KDWP (Attachment 3).

Ken Corbet, Kansas Sport Hunting Association, spoke in support of the bill, saying that the transferable tags (nonresident deer permits) are a farsighted economic boon for the state, especially for rural communities (Attachment 4). He commented that the KDWP bill introduced this session provides no guarantees for landowners that will enable them to grant access to nonresident hunters.

Chris Tymeson, Chief Legal Counsel, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, testified in opposition to the bill, explaining that over the past 18 months a 10-member task force revised the deer management statutes and is proposing a simplified system and a different methodology of establishing nonresident deer permits, a proposal that does not include nonresident transferable permits; the exclusion of these permits came about because of overwhelming dissatisfaction with the present system. He cautioned that if **HB 2437** passes, there will be no impetus to improve the system (Attachment 5). Answering a question, he said he did not know

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee at 3:30 P.M. on February 19, 2007, in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

what the outcome would be if **SB 266** and **HB 2437** both pass.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2437** and opened the hearing on **HB 2438** - amending food service licensure exception for occasional sale or serving of food.

Mr. Gilliland, explaining **HB 2438**, said that the bill extends the exemption from license and inspection requirements for occasional food sales from seven days to ten days.

Kent Crow, a citizen who has sold kettle corn at Kansas State University events for six years, said a permit costs \$400 for the first year and \$200 for subsequent years. He said an extension of the permit to 10 days would benefit his business. Mr. Crow indicated the inequality of paying the same amount as businesses who operate within the state on a full time basis seems unreasonable.

Howard Rodenberg, Director of Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, testified in opposition to the bill, saying that of the 10,300 food service establishments in the state, 531 are mobile, preparing and serving food at local venues such as festivals, fairs, and sporting events (Attachment 6). He noted that although some events serve only a few hundred individuals, there are other events, such as Kansas State University or University of Kansas football games (7-8 home games), that put at risk over 400,000 individuals who are being served food by unlicensed vendors. He commented that one of the largest food-borne outbreaks in Kansas occurred in June 2006 among the 870 individuals who participated in the Bike Across Kansas, during which time 126 people were stricken and eight people were hospitalized. If the bill passes, the fiscal loss to the agency would be \$106,200, as well as the loss of two inspector positions and 1100 fewer inspections in restaurants. Dr. Rodenberg answered members' questions, concluding by saying that the agency is considering a sliding fee scale based on tax receipts or meals served.

The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2438** and opened the hearing on **HB 2487** - regulation of ammonium nitrate dealers.

Mr. Gilliland reviewed **HB 2487** for the Committee, commenting that the bill would require ammonium nitrate dealers to be registered with the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA), pay a fee, and protect the product from unauthorized access. He noted that custom blenders would be exempt from the requirements of the bill. He stated that dealers would be required to maintain identification of buyers for three years.

Duane Simpson, Vice-President of Government Affairs, Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association, appeared before the Committee in support of the bill (Attachment 7). Calling the bill "preemptive legislation," he said that the proposed bill provides the kinds of restrictions that ammonium nitrate retailers have already adopted and offers proactive response to a potential problem.

Constantine Cotsoradis, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department of Agriculture, testified in support of the bill, noting that, while ammonium nitrate is an excellent commercial fertilizer, it can also be used to create explosives (Attachment 8). He said the bill's record-keeping requirement raises some technical issues for the department, such as how the department will be expected to verify records. He also suggested a retailer be subject to criminal rather than civil penalties. He added that the original fiscal note (\$10,700) should be substantially less than the original estimate.

Leslie Kaufman, Executive Director, Kansas Cooperative Council, spoke as a proponent, stating that the bill will assist in assuring that this valuable agricultural product will continue to be commercially available and will mitigate the risks of potential misuse (Attachment 9). Answering questions, Ms. Kaufman said a dealer would have the option to refuse sale to an unknown person and would make misuse less likely.

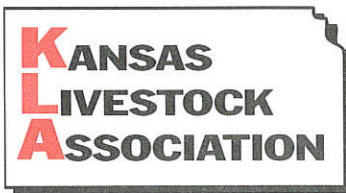
The Chairman closed the hearing on **HB 2487**. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2007.

# HOUSE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: February 19, 2007

NAME	REPRESENTING
CJ Cotsoveradis	KDA
Steve Swaffar	KFB
BRAD HARRELSON	KFB
Ken Corbet	KSHA Kansas Sport Hunting ASSN.
Patrick Trawl	" "
Keaton Kelso	KS outfitters Assoc.
Leslie Kaufman	Ks Coop Council
Angela Kohls	KDHE
Randy Smith	KBA
Elizabeth Amate	Citizen
Glenn Fox	KDWP
Travis Miller	KDWP
Chris Tymeson	KDWP
Wade Hayph	KDWP
Mike Beam	KS. LUSTK ASSN.
Duane Simpson	KARA
Dana Peterson	Ks Assoc of Wheat Growers
Gary Meyer	Ks Dept of Ag
Dale Lambly	KDA





*Since 1894*

## TESTIMONY

To: House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee  
Representative John Faber, Chairperson

From: Mike Beam, Senior Vice President  
Kansas Livestock Association

Date: February 19, 2007

Subject: HB 2437 - Extending law for transferable nonresident deer hunting permits.

The Kansas Livestock Association supports HB 2437. While we are unsure extending the 2007 sunset (subsection n, Section 1, page 4) by four years is necessary, we believe it is important to extend it until there is more certainty of legislation that addresses the availability of resident and nonresident deer hunting permits.

Many of our members have utilized their land and wildlife resources to conduct fee hunting activities on their farms and ranches. In some instances, this endeavor has supplemented their income. For others, this opportunity has created small businesses in rural Kansas.

When the transferable permit law was first implemented, it was at a time when demand for nonresident permits exceeded the supply. (Access to nonresident permits is imperative to make these business ventures function.) Landowner-tenant nonresident transferable permits provided a mechanism for farmers/ranchers who provide fee hunting experiences and the marketplace generated revenue for landowner-tenants who provide habitat for the state's deer herd.

We applaud KDWP for developing a new deer hunting permit proposal that's simpler and addresses the concerns of most stakeholders. Furthermore, I am most grateful the agency repeatedly has sought our views and reactions as they've developed this proposal.

(over)

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2-19-2007**



Our members have reviewed the KDWP proposal and believe it has merit. We support this plan. KLA believes, however, it is appropriate to place at least some of the principles in statute. To do so will take action by the Kansas Legislature. If this cannot be accomplished in 2007, we believe the sunset for transferable nonresident permits should be extended this year and until a more complete and permanent system is adopted.

Thank you for considering our comments.

***Kansas Farm Bureau***  
***POLICY STATEMENT***

**House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee**

**HB 2437, an act concerning big game permits; relating to  
nonresident deer permits**

**February 19, 2007**

**Submitted by:**

**Steve M. Swaffar**

**Director of Natural Resources**

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Chairman Faber and members of the committee, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 2437, extending the sunset date on nonresident transferable deer permits. I am Steve Swaffar, Director of Natural Resources for the Kansas Farm Bureau. KFB stands in support of HB 2437.

As you are all aware, deer permitting and control of the deer population is one of the topics the legislature discusses almost annually. Our membership's primary interest in this discussion is adequate deer herd management to prevent excessive crop and property damage; and adequate access to deer permits for residents and non-resident clients for those farmers and ranchers trying to generate some income from hunting enterprises.

KFB has communicated with KDWP on the proposal to overhaul the permitting regulations and statutes you were briefed on several weeks ago. We believe the plan has some significant improvements for deer herd control and permit access, but the proposal does come with some controversy. We also believe that if the proposal is to be effective it really needs to remain intact without significant modification. Because of the uncertainty of the proposal being passed this legislative session it is in the best interests of our members to extend the date of the existing law providing nonresident landowner transferable permits.

The transferable landowner permits have provided needed access to permits for those landowners trying to enhance farm and ranch income through deer hunting. They have also provided access to private land for hunters that they may not have otherwise gained without the permits. Although the system has

not been perfect, these permits have provided benefits both to landowners and hunters.

Extending the sunset on these permits in no way diminishes the prospects of the Department's proposal. Passing HB 2437 simply provides an extension of the existing system and assurance for landowners that they will have these permits until a new system is in place. Should the Department's proposal be passed this session or next, this part of the law would be revoked and replaced with new statutory language or new rules and regulations.

In conclusion, we hope the committee understands our support for HB 2437 is not an effort to derail the process the Department has undertaken, but is a backstop for the transition to a new system. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.



February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Reference: HB 2437

Proponent of extending current sunset provision for landowner transferable deer permits.

Dear Committee Members

As President of the Kansas Outfitters Association, owner and operator of K&K Outfitters of Mulberry, Kansas, and business partner with over 138 landowners in Kansas, I want to support extending the current sunset provision on the landowner transferable deer permits.

These permits have helped insure that landowners and outfitters could provide quality hunting opportunities for non-resident hunters. Without these tags, under current conditions, the landowners of Kansas and outfitters would have no outlet for helping provide non-resident hunting opportunities.

These tags have no undesirable effect on the quality and quantity of our Kansas deer herd. Kansas Wildlife and Parks allocated the number tags that are distributed to landowners and receive value for each tag. Landowners who receive the tags can then resell the tag to a non-resident. In short, these tags increase the revenue of funds entering our state by non-residents. Wildlife and Parks receive their funds and landowners receive compensation under this system.

Thanks you for your consideration,  
Keaton Kelso  
President, Kansas Outfitters Association

Ken Corbet

To: House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee Members

From: Kansas Sport Hunting Association

Date: February 19, 2007

Reason: H 2437

Several years ago the Kansas House and Senate passed legislation that allowed Kansas farmers and ranchers to obtain nonresident deer permits through the state drawing. This process insures that agricultural operators may grant access to their property to both resident and nonresident deer hunters of their choosing.

As a result of this far sighted legislation Kansas farmers and ranchers have been able to garner new income into their agriculture operations – to invest in facilities – to employ rural residents - to start on site agricultural businesses that help insure the health of a struggling Kansas rural economy. This type of direct agricultural marketing is exactly what our land grant universities and extension offices have been urging us to do for decades.

These transferable tags, as they have come to be known, are the guarantee to the Kansas agricultural operator that they can continue to benefit economically from the state's whitetail herd, those same agricultural operators support on their farms and ranches on a daily basis.

The deer bill that KDWP has introduced into this legislative session offers no guarantee to the Kansas agricultural operator that they will be able to insure nonresident hunters of their choosing that they can grant access to their properties. Without this assurance future economic development could be damaged – we would urge you to support H 2437.

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ATTACHMENT 4

# KANSAS

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & PARKS

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

**Testimony on HB 2437 regarding Nonresident Transferable Permits  
To  
The House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources**

**By Christopher J. Tymeson  
Chief Legal Counsel  
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks**

**20 February 2007**

HB 2437 seeks to amend K.S.A. 32-937 to extend the sunset provision on nonresident transferable permits. The provisions of the bill would be effective on publication in the statute book. **The Department opposes the provisions contained in HB 2437.**

Over the past 18 months, a 10 member Department task force was assembled and undertook the task of revising the deer management related statutes. The task force also proposed changes to the deer management system to simplify the system, increase opportunity, and develop a different methodology of establishing nonresident deer permit numbers that both satisfies resident landowner desires and protects resident hunting opportunities.

After formulating initial proposals, the task force took public comment at meetings around the state and at Department Commission meetings for a period of one year. Taking into account the public comment received, the task force then revised the proposals and is currently pursuing a bill that would allow the Department to implement those proposals. **Neither the initial task force proposal nor the revised proposal contains the nonresident transferable permit.** The Department has grave concerns that should the nonresident transferable permit continue to exist beyond 2007, in spite of overwhelming dissatisfaction with the permit expressed by both hunters and landowners, there will be no impetus to change for the better.

In conclusion, the Department appreciates the opportunity to comment on the bill and the support of the committee in opposing passage of the bill.



Kathleen Sebelius, Governor  
Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND ENVIRONMENT

[www.kdheks.gov](http://www.kdheks.gov)

Division of Health

Testimony on House Bill 2438  
Relating to Licensure Exception for Occasional Sale or Serving of Food

To  
House Agriculture and Natural Resources

Presented By  
Howard Rodenberg, MD, MPH  
Director of Health

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

February 19, 2007

Chairman Faber and members of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, my name is Dr. Howard Rodenberg. I am the Director of the Division of Health for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Kansas State Health Officer. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today in opposition to House Bill 2438, which proposes to increase the number of days a food vendor could operate before a license and inspection would be required.

The Department of Health and Environment is responsible for inspecting and ensuring food safety in approximately 10,300 food service establishments. Each of these establishments store, handle, prepare and serve food to the public. Five hundred thirty-one (531) of these establishments are vendors that have the ability to move from site to site. These vendors handle, prepare, and serve food on a temporary basis at local venues such as festivals, fairs and sporting events.

Currently, each food vendor that operates in the state for seven or more days is required to be licensed and inspected. Since there is not a provision for a temporary license, all food vendors operating seven or more days in a calendar year are required to pay for an annual license of \$200. They receive an annual inspection plus food safety educational information. House Bill 2438 will extend the exemption to ten days before a license and food safety inspection is required.

The passage of House Bill 2438 will allow approximately five hundred (500) unlicensed and un-inspected food vendors to handle, prepare and serve food at large temporary food venues across the state. Some of our temporary events are small, serving only hundreds of people. However many are large and serve hundreds of thousands of Kansans and visitors to the state. These men, women and children will be exposed to food service that will not be inspected or regulated in any way. A few of the larger events include:

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- KSU Stadium (7-8 days football home games) ~ 400,000 people
- KU Stadium (7-8 days football home games) ~ 408,000 people
- KC Speedway (6-7 days) ~574,000 people
- Country Stampede ~ 100,000 people
- Smoky Hill River Festival, Wichita River Festival, Neewallah Festival, and many more.

One of the largest foodborne outbreaks in Kansas occurred June 2006. Approximately 870 people participated in the weeklong annual Biking Across Kansas event. Participants ate food from a variety of unlicensed and unregulated venues during the event. Half way into the event people became ill with diarrhea, nausea and vomiting. Medical care was provided in Wilson, Cowley and Crawford counties. A total of 126 people were stricken and eight people were hospitalized. The causative agent was Norovirus. This is a preventable disease when food safety is in place.

The department sent a query to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Association of Food and Drug Officials regarding jurisdictions that exempt temporary food vendors from licensure and inspection. Nineteen jurisdictions responded. All require licensure and inspection prior to operation for any length of time. States responding were Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Arkansas, Ohio, Wisconsin, Wyoming, South Dakota, West Virginia, North Carolina, Florida, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico and Alaska.

The fiscal impact to the Food Safety and Consumer Protection Program would be significant. There are a total of 531 food service vendors that would be affected by this change. At the current license fee of \$200 per year the fiscal impact will be \$106,200. This will result in the loss of 2 FTE inspector positions and additionally impacting the total number of inspections conducted in restaurants. The loss of these positions will result in approximately 1100 fewer inspections in restaurants.

It is the position of the KDHE that inspections of all food service establishments, whether they are fixed or temporary, is an important function to protect the public's health. When the public attends temporary events and partakes in the food handled, prepared and served by vendors, they do so trusting that they have been inspected and that the food is safe to eat. If the licensure exemption is extended the impact to public health will be great.

Thank you. I am available to answer your questions.





# KANSAS AGRIBUSINESS RETAILERS ASSOCIATION

*SAFE AND ABUNDANT FOOD THROUGH SOUND SCIENCE*

**Statement in Support of House Bill 2487  
House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee  
Representative John Faber, Chair  
February 19, 2007**

Thank you Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee my name is Duane Simpson; I am Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association. KARA is a volunteer organization that represents over 700 agribusiness firms that are primarily retail facilities that supply fertilizers, crop protection chemicals, seed, petroleum products and agronomic expertise to Kansas farmers. KARA's membership base also includes ag-chemical and equipment manufacturing firms, distribution firms and various other businesses associated with the retail crop production industry. On behalf of these members I appear in support of HB 2487.

This bill requires retail dealers of Ammonium Nitrate (AN) to register with the Kansas Department of Agriculture and then to maintain records of all AN sales for 3 years. Specifically, a purchaser will be required to show a state or federal driver's license or other photo ID approved by the Secretary of KDA. The retailer will record the date of purchase, quantity purchased, license number, purchaser's name, physical address, and telephone number. If the person taking delivery of the AN is someone other than the end-user, then the same information will need to be recorded for both the person taking delivery and the end-user.

Ammonium Nitrate is one of the most cost effective and efficient ways for producers to deliver nitrogen to their crops. In Kansas, AN is mostly used for grassland where other fertilizers become cost prohibitive to use. Very few retailers handle AN anymore. Our best estimate puts the actual number under 25 retailers, but we're not certain because we do not have to register dealers. "Big Box" retail stores such as Wal-Mart, Lowe's and Home Depot do not carry AN, it is only sold by fertilizer dealers to producers.

Since AN was used in the Oklahoma City bombing and in subsequent terrorist attacks around the world, fertilizer retailers have voluntarily placed restrictions on the sale of AN. Many retailers simply stopped carrying it, while the rest of the industry implemented the "America's Security Begins With You" campaign. This national campaign called on retailers to begin voluntarily doing the very things we are asking you to put into statute.

Unfortunately, no television sweeps week is complete without some television news station attempting to prove that voluntary enforcement is not sufficient. These sensational stories have prompted legislation in other states and in Congress that would make this valuable product virtually impossible to sell as a fertilizer. Our national affiliate, The Fertilizer Institute (TFI) has supported legislation in Congress that would ask state departments of agriculture to regulate AN in the manner proscribed in HB 2487. That legislation has repeatedly stalled in Congress.

Our industry is afraid that another terrorist attack with AN will lead to legislation far more restrictive than what we have proposed. We believe that preemptive legislation that protects the product and the public is the best solution. If there is another terrorist attack, cooler heads are not likely to prevail. The public often asks legislators to be proactive and solve problems before they happen. It is rare to find an issue where that is a possibility. This is one of those issues and I urge the committee to support HB 2487. I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.

**Testimony on HB 2487**  
**to**  
**House Agriculture and Natural Resource Committee**

**by**  
**Constantine Cotsoradis**  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Kansas Department of Agriculture**

**February 19, 2007**

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I am Constantine Cotsoradis, deputy secretary of agriculture, and I am here to testify in support of House Bill 2487.

Ammonium nitrate has long been used by Kansas farmers and others as an excellent commercial fertilizer. However, the Oklahoma City bombing was a tragic reminder that it also can be used to create explosives. Tracking its distribution and sale has generated interest from law enforcement and the Department of Homeland Security.

HB 2487 would require any person operating a business engaged in selling or distributing ammonium nitrate to register with the Kansas Department of Agriculture and to keep records regarding its sale. Ammonium nitrate purchasers, among other things, would have to show photo identification when making purchases.

We fully support the intent of this bill, but we have technical questions we need answered so we understand our role and responsibilities. We know the bill requires any business distributing ammonium nitrate to keep specific records and to allow us access to those records. However, we don't know if we will be expected to periodically verify that these records are maintained, or if the records are to be examined only when a situation arises that involves law enforcement. Also, it's not clear if businesses are to maintain records on purchasers who will use the product for something other than fertilizer. For example, when it's purchased by an employee of a local rock quarry.

We also want to bring to the committee's attention that including this bill in the fertilizer law will mean that businesses that violate the record keeping requirements could be subject to civil penalties. We do not take issue with this, but we wonder if the committee considers a criminal penalty more appropriate.

Finally, I would like to expand on our fiscal impact statement. When we prepared it, we had little information regarding the types of businesses that might be distributing ammonium nitrate. We have since been advised that little, if any, small packages of ammonium nitrate are

sold through retailers like garden centers and hardware stores. Therefore, we may be dealing with as few as 50 to 60 registrants. If this proves true, our projected costs for program outreach will be substantially less than originally estimated. We also need to point out that the bill exempts registered custom fertilizer blenders from paying an ammonium nitrate distributor registration fee. That exemption could impact other ammonium nitrate dealers not registered as blenders.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I will stand for questions at the appropriate time.





**Kansas Cooperative Council**

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The Mission of the Kansas Cooperative Council is to promote, support and advance the interests and understanding of agricultural, utility, credit and consumer cooperatives and their members through legislation and regulatory efforts, education and public relations.

**House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources**

**February 19, 2007**

**Topeka, Kansas**

**HB 2487 – Placing additional safeguards on the distribution on ammonium nitrate.**

Thank you, Chairman Faber and members of the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee for the opportunity to comment today in support of HB 2487.

I am Leslie Kaufman and I serve the Kansas Cooperative Council as Executive Director. The Kansas Cooperative Council represents all forms of cooperative businesses across the state -- agricultural, utility, credit, financial and consumer cooperatives. Approximately half of our membership is involved in agriculture/farm supply and marketing. Many of these cooperatives are directly involved in the sale and/or distribution of ammonium nitrate.

I know that others appearing before me have explained how the bill will operate. They have also noted voluntary measure our industry has adopted to place safeguards on the handling of ammonium nitrate. We join with them in applauding these voluntary efforts agribusiness has taken to mitigate the risks of potential misuse of this product.

The Kansas Cooperative Council supports the safe, legal use of a variety of crop-benefiting compounds. We are very concerned about potential misuse of products and the ramifications that has on innocent parties, including those appropriately utilizing a product.

Ammonium nitrate is an important material for delivering beneficial nitrogen in an efficient and cost effective manner. Our farm supply outlets and their member producer-owners want to help ensure this product remains commercially available. As such, we support HB 2487. Our industry's voluntary practices will be further enhanced under this proposal.

Thank you for allowing us to comment on HB 2487. We encourage you to look favorably on the bill. Thank you.

**HS AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
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ATTACHMENT 9**