



**To: Chairman Rahjes  
Members of the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources**

**From: Ellen Parker, Associate Attorney  
WaterOne (Water District No. 1 Johnson County, Kansas)**

**Date: February 10, 2025**

**RE: Proponent Testimony HB 2172**

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Chairman and Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide WaterOne's support for House Bill 2172. WaterOne is the public water supply system to over 480,000 Kansans in 17 Cities in Johnson County. Our service area is 272 square miles.

The Kansas Water Authority's efforts to develop a Water Plan Implementation Framework over the past year have been encouraging to watch. WaterOne is hopeful that the task force created by this bill can accomplish the vital job of establishing a dedicated funding source for Kansas's water resources.

As the largest water utility in Kansas, it is WaterOne's responsibility to its customers to be engaged in water policy discussions at the state level. WaterOne staff provided important input into the original Water Vision process and has been a key stakeholder in the current Strategic Implementation Planning process. The current chairs of both the Kansas and Missouri Regional Advisory Committees are WaterOne staff members and WaterOne is a member of the Kansas River Water Assurance District. WaterOne is supportive of the creation of a task force to drive the Strategic Implementation Plan forward and we would encourage the Committee to consider the importance of ensuring that the water utility serving so many Kansans has a clear path to participation on the task force.

WaterOne respectfully requests House Bill 2172 be passed by the Committee.

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