

Date: February 2, 2025  
Bill Number: HB2158  
Position: Support  
Testimony Type: Written Only  
For Meeting on: February 5 at 1:30 PM  
Testimony By: Jennifer Nichols  
On Behalf Of: Individual  
Email: vinecreekjn@gmail.com  
Telephone: 785-392-0418

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Labor, & Economic Development,

Thank you for your service and work for our state. As a constituent and a supporter of Kansas's beekeeping community, I urge you to support HB2158, which seeks to eliminate the requirement for a commercial kitchen for small-scale beekeepers to sell honey and honeycomb in retail settings.

This bill has provisions to allow Kansas honey producers to more readily promote and sell from their small businesses. This will allow for more growth and development of small producers.

A local store cannot sell a Kansas honey producer's product if bottled without a commercial kitchen license. This bill helps address that barrier to marketing local honey. This bill would help level the playing field for local producers. Honey producers in Missouri have this advantage in marketing options as a similar rule is already in place there.

Honey is naturally shelf-stable, and small-scale beekeepers already follow safe hygiene practices. The bill is still protective of consumers and will require a commercial kitchen if pursuing more specialized honey products such as infused or creamed honey.

I urge you to support HB2158 to help small-scale beekeepers thrive while maintaining consumer confidence in their products. This bill is an excellent opportunity to support local businesses, protect pollinators, and strengthen Kansas's agricultural future. I appreciate your support to reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens on small beekeepers, helping them grow their businesses and contribute to local economies.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,  
Jennifer Nichols  
Senate District 36 and House District 107