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Bill Number: HB2158

Position: Proponent

Testimony Type: Written

For Meeting on: February 5 at 1:30 PM

Testimony By: Nicholas Hockman

On Behalf Of: North East Kansas Beekeepers Association

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Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development, I hope this message finds you well. 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 offers a simple, common-sense solution with significant benefits:

Empowering Small Businesses – Reduces unnecessary regulatory burdens on small beekeepers, helping them grow their businesses and contribute to local economies.

Low Risk – Honey is naturally shelf-stable, and small-scale beekeepers already follow safe hygiene practices.

Boosting Rural Economies – Encourages entrepreneurship in rural areas where beekeeping is a vital supplemental income source.

Aligning with Neighboring States – Many nearby states have already adopted similar policies, ensuring fairness and competitiveness for Kansas beekeepers.

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.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I'd be happy to discuss this further or provide additional information.

Sincerely, Nicholas Hockman

Senate District 10, House District Q402-01