



Kansas Grain and Feed Association
Renew Kansas Biofuels Association
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January 21, 2025

To: Senate Committee on Assessment and Taxation
From: Randy Stookey, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and General Counsel
Re: **Joint Proponent Testimony on Senate Bill 35, discontinuing the state property tax levies for the Kansas educational building fund and the state institutions building fund and providing for financing therefor from the state general fund.**

Chairperson Tyson and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 35. This testimony is submitted jointly on behalf of the Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA), and Renew Kansas Biofuels Association (Renew Kansas).

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership includes over 950 Kansas business locations and represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state. Renew Kansas is the trade association of the Kansas biofuels industry.

Across Kansas, our member grain elevators and biofuel processing plants are strong corporate citizens that pay millions of dollars annually in property taxes to help support schools and local government.

The ability of our members to operate a competitive business is often determined by the amount of fixed costs on their operation, such as property taxes.

In recent years, however, the property tax burden on our members has grown exponentially through unreasonable increases in assessed valuations. These valuation increases have resulted in massive increases in property taxes paid by our members. For this reason, our associations support legislation that would reduce the property tax burden on our industry members.

Senate Bill 35 seeks to decrease the property tax burden on Kansas property owners by discontinuing the state property tax levies for the Kansas educational building fund and the state institutions building fund, and then transferring money from the state general fund for that purpose.

It is our opinion that the provisions in this bill are reasonable, represent good public tax policy, and will work to lower the overall property tax burden on all taxpayers. For these reasons, we stand in support of the bill.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 35. We respectfully request that the committee pass the bill out favorably.