



Kansas Grain & Feed Association
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
Renew Kansas Biofuels Association

March 6, 2025

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
From: Randy Stookey, General Counsel & SVP Government Affairs
Re: **Proponent Joint Written Testimony on HCR 5008, proposing a constitutional amendment to provide for legislative oversight of rules and regulations adopted by executive branch agencies and officials.**

Chairwoman Warren and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Concurrent Resolution 5008. This testimony is submitted jointly by the Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA), Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA), and Renew Kansas Biofuels Association.

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state. KARA is a trade association of over 700 agribusiness firms that supply fertilizers, crop protection products, seed, petroleum products, and agronomic services to Kansas farmers. Renew Kansas is the trade association of the Kansas biofuels industry.

Broadly, members of these associations operate in important agribusiness industries which are highly regulated. Members of our associations understand that many regulations are necessary and proper. However, we have long opposed the adoption of regulations which are unnecessary, unreasonable, or overly broad as to scope or cost of implementation.

Under Article 2 of the Kansas Constitution, all legislative authority to create law is vested in the House and Senate. In addition, state regulatory agencies, and the scope of their authority, are created by acts of the legislature.

Agency regulations are granted the full force and effect of law. For this reason, the process of adopting agency regulations should be deliberate, fully transparent, and be given full oversight by the Legislature.

In addition, in order to retain the appropriate constitutional balance of power, the Legislature must maintain final authority to either approve or deny any regulation proposed by an executive agency.

HCR 5008 seeks to restate this initial balance of constitutional power by ensuring that agency regulations with the force and effect of law are given final approval by a legislative body which is directly answerable to the voters.

Because HCR 5008 promotes sound public policy, and is consistent with our historic constitutional principles, we stand in strong support of the resolution and would ask this committee to pass the measure favorably without amendment.