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Robin Jennison, Secretary

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## Testimony on HB 2030 relating to Wounded Warrior Deer Permits To The Senate Committee on Natural Resources

## By Robin Jennison Secretary Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism

March 15, 2013

HB 2030 seeks to set aside up to ten deer permits for combat service connected disabled veterans. The Department supports the provisions contained in the bill and requested introduction of the bill. The provisions of the bill would be effective upon publication in the Kansas Register.

For the past several years, the Department has had requests to accommodate "wounded warrior" nonresident hunts beyond the normal nonresident draw permit and after leftover permits have sold out. In an attempt to accommodate those requests, the Department is proposing to set aside up to 10 permits to be sold directly to those individuals upon payment of the proper fee. These are essentially nonresident permits as the vast majority of deer permits for residents are available over the counter. If the demand exceeded the allocation by a date certain, then the permits would be allocated through a random draw. If not, they would be available first-come, first-served.

The Department notes that there were some amendments on the House side that occurred at the request of the Department to clean up some last minute changes in the drafting process.

The Department appreciates the support of the Committee in supporting the bill.

SEN. NATURAL RESOURCES

Date <u>3-/5-/3</u> Attachment #\_\_\_\_\_\_