

To: Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Sen. Larry Powell, Chair

From: Greg Krissek, Kansas Corn Growers Association

Date: January 27, 2016

Re: SB 337- An act concerning water; relating to the water appropriation act; annual water use report

Chairman Powell and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 337. My name is Greg Krissek. I am providing this testimony in my role as CEO of the Kansas Corn Growers Association (KCGA.) KCGA represents Kansas corn producers on a variety of issues that concern our members.

Under current law, the penalty for failing to submit an annual water use report is low enough that there is not a true incentive to file the report in a timely manner. SB 337 proposes to increase penalties from \$250 to \$1,000 for each water right that the owner fails to report water usage for the previous year in a timely manner. The bill also allows for a suspension of the water right until the report is submitted.

There are very few water users that do not file a timely report. We are hopeful that this change in the penalties will encourage more timely filing for those water right holders.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today and we encourage your favorable consideration of SB 337.