

Members of the House Agriculture Committee:

I feel sad for Kansas. I have always boasted to my out-of-state relatives and friends on how beautiful Kansas is, how everyone is so friendly, how they help each other, how our lakes are beautiful and our air fresh. However, more and more, our state is being ruined by legislation that is more beneficial to big business and less beneficial to the people who live in Kansas.

SB 405 is a bill that has a nickname "The Tyson Bill". Simple logic would be that if it was beneficial to the people of Kansas, it would not be named after a big corporation. It is bad enough to have a big poultry farm near a community. (I am sure you have heard all the arguments about air and water pollution, diseases, flies, smell, etc., so I will not mention them here.) However, this bill allows the poultry barns to be in someone's backyard - within feet of their children playing. That is awful! I don't understand how anyone could allow that to happen.

Please stop and think about the people who will have to live in close proximity to these CAFOs. Please go online and read some of the testimonies of people and towns who have dealt with CAFOs moving into their areas. Read some articles dealing with the pollution side of CAFOs.

Please don't just take the word of one or two people who say they have a Tyson plant in their district and it doesn't smell or pollute. Ask the non-politicians who live nearby and actually deal with the pros and cons of a plant/and or poultry farm in their neighborhood.

Thank you,
Janet Hofmeister

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