

Members of the House Agriculture Committee:

I ask you to please vote NO on SB 405. I understand Kansas is an agricultural state and I have lived around agriculture in 3 different states my whole life. I am not against agriculture but I am against the CAFO chicken operations. Chickens produce more amount of manure as beef and this chicken manure contains twice as much nitrogen and four times as much phosphorus. Nitrogen and phosphorus are the greatest threat to streams from waste application run off. Please research the areas in other states where these operations exists. The natural resources in those states are extremely polluted now. Water supplies are contaminated. Look at the number of chicken growers that have gone bankrupt because there is no way to make a living at raising these birds. Drive through Arkansas and see how many chicken barns are now empty and over grown with weeds. Please do not allow this to happen in Kansas

Please consider the health impact this will have on citizens. This bill would allow for 333,333 chickens to be raised within 1320 feet from structures and 100,000 chickens from 100 feet from any home or School. The community in which I live is a small rural community with MANY pockets of subdivisions in the county. Even some of our schools butt up against farm land. If SB 405 is passed this means that chicken farms could be built within 100 feet of these subdivisions and schools. Please, I beg you please vote NO on SB 405

I ask you to ensure that my county and its citizens have a voice and can oppose these types of mega farms.

Sincerely

Leah Hicks
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