

The University of Kansas

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Legislators of the State of Kansas:

I am a retired professor at the University of Kansas and a longtime board member of the private, nonprofit Land Institute, located near Salina, Kansas. For the past 40 years the Land Institute has been developing a research program to promote sustainable agriculture in this state and throughout the rest of the world. It is an ambitious, far-sighted project that involves science, philosophy, and traditional rural values. But above all the Land Institute has an educational mission: to explore new ways of providing food and prosperity to people through applying science to the problems of production. Because of its independence, it has been able to take a long-term view of problems of soil, water, and energy consumption. The Land Institute, in this project, has depended on private support from contributors, including many successful businessmen and foundations.

Now Bill 2381 has been proposed in the Kansas legislature to exempt the Land Institute from the state sales tax. Given the educational and research mission of the LI, this seems to me to be a legitimate and justifiable exemption. The Land Institute has attracted international attention to the state, excited entrepreneurs around the world, and recruited an outstanding research staff to our state. It has been here for more than four decades. It has paid off in so many ways for the people of Kansas.

Please support Bill 2381 and grant the Land Institute of Salina a sales-tax exemption to promote its valuable program.

Sincerely yours,

