



**Kansas Grain and Feed Association  
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Renew Kansas Association**

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To: House Committee on Commerce, Labor, and Economic Development  
From: Randy Stookey, JD, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs  
Date: January 30, 2020  
Re: **Proponent Joint Testimony on HB 2507, liability protection for businesses that participate in high school work-based learning programs.**

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Chairman Tarwater and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2507. This testimony is submitted jointly on behalf of Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA), Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA), and Renew Kansas Biofuels Association (Renew Kansas).

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership includes over 950 Kansas business locations and represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state. KARA is an agribusiness industry trade association whose membership includes over 700 companies across Kansas. Renew Kansas is the trade association of the biofuels processing industry in Kansas.

We understand the intent of House Bill 2507 to provide liability protections for high school apprenticeships and training programs. Specifically, the bill allows high school students engaged in a school-sponsored apprenticeship, work-study program, or similar program to be covered by the school district's liability policy.

Our associations represent the Kansas agribusiness industry, which provides good paying careers for people in every corner of the state. There is an on-going demand in the agribusiness industry for a trained, skilled labor force, and we support efforts to promote a ready, trained workforce, including the promotion of vocational and technical training programs.

This bill encourages student participation in vocational and technical training programs, while also creating awareness of career opportunities for young workers. The bill represents good public policy of promoting workforce training and engagement. For these reasons, we stand in strong support of the bill.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2507. We respectfully request that the committee pass the bill out favorably, and will stand for questions at the appropriate time.