



Kansas Grain and Feed Association
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
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January 28, 2021

To: House Committee on Agriculture
From: Randy Stookey, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs
Re: **Proponent Joint Testimony for HB 2103, creating the Kansas pesticide waste disposal program and allowing up to \$50,000 to be transferred annually from the Kansas agricultural remediation fund to a new Kansas pesticide waste disposal fund**

Chairman Rahjes and members of the committee on Agriculture, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2103. This testimony is submitted jointly on behalf of the Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA) and Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA).

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 a voluntary trade association that appreciates membership of over 700 agribusiness firms that supply agricultural inputs and services to Kansas farmers.

Our associations appear in support of this bill which seeks to amend the agricultural and specialty chemical remediation act. Passed into law in 2000, the act created the remediation reimbursement program, and remediation fund, to allow for financial reimbursement to eligible persons for expenses incurred during the performance of agricultural chemical remediation.

The remediation fund serves as a form of self-insurance for the agribusiness industry. The remediation fund receives no money from the state general fund, and is completely financed by assessments on commercial grain warehouses, agricultural chemical registrants, custom fertilizer blenders, commercial fertilizer registrants, and pesticide dealer licensees.

House Bill 2103 would amend the remediation fund to allow annual transfers of up to \$50,000 from the remediation fund to be used to fund a Pesticide Waste Disposal Program. This program would help to pay for the safe collection and disposal of pesticide waste materials, from any source, and would be managed by the Kansas Department of Agriculture.

KGFA and KARA strongly support this legislation, and view this program as good industry stewardship and sound public policy. Last year, the House passed this legislation on a vote of 122-0, and the bill was then passed favorably out of the Senate Ag Committee.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2103. We respectfully request that the committee pass this bill out favorably and will stand for questions at the appropriate time.