



Kansas Grain & Feed Association  
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association  
Renew Kansas Biofuels Association

March 22, 2021

To: House Committee on Judiciary  
From: Ron C. Seeber, President & CEO  
Re: **Proponent Testimony on HCR 5014, proposing a constitutional amendment that provides legislative oversight of rules and regulations adopted by executive branch agencies.**

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Chairman Patton and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Concurrent Resolution 5014. This testimony is submitted jointly by the Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA), Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA), and Renew Kansas Biofuels Association.

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state. KARA is a trade association of over 700 agribusiness firms that supply fertilizers, crop protection products, seed, petroleum products, and agronomic services to Kansas farmers. Renew Kansas is the trade association of the Kansas biofuels industry.

Broadly, members of these associations operate in agribusiness industries which are both important and highly-regulated. Members of our associations support state and federal regulations that are necessary, reasonable, and lawful. However, we have long opposed the adoption of regulations on industry which are unnecessary or unreasonable as to scope or cost of implementation.

Each executive branch agency is created by the state legislature – as is the agency's scope of regulatory authority. Because regulations have the full force and effect of law, the process of adopting regulations should be deliberate and fully transparent to the regulated industry.

As all authority to create law rests in the legislative branch of government, it is our position that the Kansas Legislature should maintain final lawful authority to review and approve, or deny, the adoption of any rule or regulation proposed by an executive agency. This regulatory review authority reflects the separation of powers within our state constitution, and is consistent with how our state, and others, viewed agency regulatory authority for many years.

This resolution seeks to make positive changes to the regulatory system in Kansas by providing oversight of proposed regulations by Legislators directly elected by the residents of Kansas.

For the reasons stated, we stand in strong support of HCR 5014 and would ask this committee to pass the measure out favorably.