

Bill Number: HB2644  
Support: Yes  
Testimony: In person, oral  
For meeting on: March 29, 2022  
Testimony by: Jake Menold  
On Behalf of: Sabetha Elementary School, 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
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Thank you Chairman Olson and Vice Chairman Hilderband for letting me come to the Topeka Capitol to talk about the bill HB2644. I'm Jake Menold and I am appearing before you on behalf of the 4th and 5th graders at Sabetha Elementary School. I am a proponent of HB2644 and the Sandhill Plum becoming the Kansas state fruit. Sabetha Elementary school is one school out of 24 other schools that think that the Sandhill plum should be the Kansas State fruit. Kansas is one out of 19 other states that doesn't have a state fruit, And I want to help change that! Why do I think that the Sandhill plum should be the Kansas state fruit? The Sandhill plum is native to Kansas, especially in the western part of the state. The Sandhill plum is a bush that you can find naturally in sandy prairies. The Sandhill plum bush can be grown for a windbreak, wildlife habitat, and water erosion control. You can even make wine, jam, and jelly with the Sandhill plum! It has been interesting for my class to learn how a bill gets passed. If it weren't for Mr. Wertenberger I would have never known how a bill worked or even what a bill was until I was an adult. So I want to thank Mr. Wertenberger for all he has done. Thanks for listening to me and for all you do!