



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

March 2, 2022

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
From: Randy Stookey, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and General Counsel
Re: **Joint Proponent Testimony on HCR 5014, proposing a constitutional amendment that provides legislative oversight of rules and regulations adopted by executive branch agencies and officials.**

Chairwoman Warren 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 Kansas agribusiness industries which are both important and highly regulated. Our association members 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 through laws passed by the state legislature – as is each agency's scope of regulatory authority. Because agency regulations have the full force and effect of law, however, the process of adopting regulations should be deliberate, fully transparent to the public and regulated industry, and be adopted only with complete oversight by, and final approval from, the legislature.

As all authority to create law rests in the legislative branch of government, the Kansas Legislature should maintain final lawful authority to review, approve, or deny, the adoption of any rule or regulation proposed by an executive agency. Such regulatory review authority is consistent with the separation of powers within our state constitution.

As with SCR 1618, this resolution seeks to amend Kansas law to ensure that the body most directly accountable to Kansas residents - the Kansas Legislature – maintains final control over establishing the laws of this state, to include the regulatory system, by maintaining oversight and final approval of proposed agency regulations.

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