

STATE OF KANSAS

ELAINE BOWERS

SENATOR, 36TH DISTRICT
1326 N. 150TH RD.
CONCORDIA, KS 66901
(785) 243-4256

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 223-E
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-7389
elaine.bowers@senate.ks.gov



TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

CHAIR: TRANSPARENCY & ETHICS
VICE CHAIR: LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MEMBER: JUDICIARY
TRANSPORTATION
UTILITIES

JOINT COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

CAPITOL PRESERVATION
CORRECTIONS & JUVENILE OVERSIGHT

March 9, 2023
House Federal and State Affairs Committee
SB 3 - Proponent Testimony

Chairman Carpenter and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to introduce Joel Condray and students from Goddard School district. They are here with us today to testify on SB 3 - to name a new Kansas state land fossil. Goddard is in Senator Dan Kerschen's district who is with us in the audience today.

I first became aware of this land fossil - *Silvaurus condrayi* - from Jettie Condray, Joel's father. He was the curator of the Ottawa County Historical Museum in Minneapolis. Ottawa County is my home county and in Kansas Senate District #36. It was his father, Warren Condray, who discovered the fossil in a pasture on his land in 1955. It was recognized as a new species in 1960. The fossil is located today at the KU Natural History Museum in Lawrence.

Joel asked his students a few years ago if they would like to learn the legislative process of how an idea (or a family dream) becomes a bill which then can become a law. Sadly, Covid slowed down the process for a few years, but the students and Joel renewed it this summer. We pre-filed the bill in order to get a head start with hopes that both chambers would have the opportunity to vote on it with a bill signing by the Governor before the end of school in May.

I'm anxious myself to hear from the students and the experts at KU Natural History Museum about this unique dinosaur which has been described as an "armadillo on steroids". I do want you to know Kansas has a state marine fossil and a state flying fossil (both enacted in 2014) - SB 3 will name the state land fossil. This bill passed the Senate 40-0.

I'm very pleased at this time to introduce you to Mr. Condray, his administration, and students from Goddard Kansas.

Senator Elaine Bowers
Senate District #36