

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

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Chairman Carpenter and Members of the Committee,

According to Dr. Burnham, this discovery represented the only known dinosaur from the Dakota Formation in Kansas. Its armor was covered in spikes and plates, and it was officially named a NEW species to science in 1960. The dinosaur's genus name "Silvisaurus" means woodland lizard", and is said to be from the late Cretaceous period, more than 100 million years ago. It was a herbivore, thought to be about 13 feet in length and it weighed about 2,000 lbs. The rarity and significance of the discovery opened a window into the past, highlighting a previously unknown dinosaur. In fact, it has been studied by scientists from around the world ever since.

The skeleton was originally encased in very hard rock and it has taken decades to clean it. With the advent of new technology, the fossilized bones are now proudly displayed and on exhibit at the KU Natural History Museum!