



Kansas Grain and Feed Association
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
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January 31, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Commerce
From: Randy Stookey, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, KGFA, KARA
Re: **Proponent Testimony on Senate Bill 47, prohibiting cities and counties from regulating consumer merchandise and auxiliary containers for the consumption, transportation or protection of consumer merchandise.**

Chairman Erickson and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 47. This testimony is submitted on behalf of Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA) and Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA).

KARA is an agribusiness industry trade association whose membership includes more than 700 companies across Kansas. KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing, and shipping industry in Kansas. Most grain facilities also provide agricultural retail services.

Located across our state, our member agribusinesses work with Kansas farmers by providing agricultural inputs and services that assist with growing agricultural commodities. Our industry contributes greatly to the Kansas economy and provides gainful employment for thousands of Kansans.

Agribusiness is a highly regulated industry. The ability of our industry to operate a competitive business is often determined by the amount of their overhead costs, such as taxes and administrative expenses.

Senate Bill 47 would prohibit municipalities from adopting or enforcing local regulations to restrict, tax, or prohibit the use or sale of plastic containers for retail consumers. As written, the bill would protect the continued use of 2.5-gallon plastic containers commonly used in our industry.

This legislation is reasonable, and in some instances necessary, for our industry. For these reasons, we support this legislation as sound public policy for Kansas business and commerce.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 47. We would respectfully request that the committee pass the bill out favorably.