



UNITED TO GROW
FAMILY AGRICULTURE

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House Judiciary Committee

Re: HB 2188 an act concerning the open records act

February 12, 2013

Submitted by:

Nick Levendofsky

Special Projects Coordinator

Chairman Kinzer and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2188.

Kansas Farmers Union is one of the state's oldest active general farm organizations, representing farmers and ranchers from across the state since 1907. Our primary goal is to sustain, strengthen, protect, and enhance the economic interests and quality of life for family farmers and ranchers.

Kansas Farmers Union's position is that public dollars received in grants are already extremely well-reported in regards to expenses, and HB 2188 looks like nothing more than government trying to nit-pick non-profits to death and put targets on those whom some disagree with. As a non-profit, this would affect KFU negatively in many different ways, and it could also affect many other agricultural organizations that operate under a non-profit status.

I would like to pose two questions before the committee:

- 1.) Does this bill also cover federal grants received in Kansas?
- 2.) If this bill passes, does that mean all check-off dollars (which are public funds raised by a production tax) also have to operate under the same requirements?

I look forward to finding out the answers to these and many other important questions in the days to come.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and will be happy to answer questions at the appropriate time.

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