

To members of the House Committee on Agriculture:

RE: Please vote NO to unconstrained Mega Chicken Farms in Kansas (SB 405) TYSON BILL

I am a life-long resident of Kansas. I recently moved from the city suburbs to a rural area an hour away from my office in Kansas City after a year-long search for a place that would enable a healthier country living lifestyle for my family.

Not long after I moved in, I was horrified that Tyson was planning to build their largest chicken processing plant just a couple of miles from my new home and where my wife teaches middle-school in nearby Tonganoxie. This unwanted health hazard and the economic earthquake was luckily avoided last fall after an unprecedented grass-roots outcry from people like myself who live near that target zone in Leavenworth county.

On an urgent personal note, tomorrow morning my wife will be under the care of a trusted Kansas surgeon as she begins to fight the breast cancer that was recently discovered. This new health challenge makes it even more critical that she protect herself from environmental hazards.

I think that the direction to make it even easier for mega poultry operations to pop up almost anywhere is counter to the will of most Kansas residents. I think that most residents are now inclined to take the approach of placing some basic limits on the size of poultry operations, just like our state took action to moderate the size/density and location of huge hog operations after several communities were overwhelmed by those mega-operations.

Thanks for representing the citizens of Kansas and thank you for taking my regional, local, and personal concerns into consideration as this proposal is considered across the state.

I am pro-Ag and encouraging a diverse thriving business economy, but I am mindful that the actions of representatives should first and foremost reflect the best interest and wishes of the people. Although I travel across this great country each week, I plan to always call Kansas my home and place of refuge against the storms of the chaotic world around us.

Regards,

Jerry Bradfield
17361 Blue Moon Ln
Tonganoxie, KS 66068
816-255-9295