

STATE OF KANSAS

TROY L. WAYMASTER
REPRESENTATIVE, 109TH DISTRICT
3528 192ND ST
BUNKER HILL, KS 67626

CAPITOL BUILDING
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612
(785) 296-7672



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS,
CHAIRMAN

February 13, 2024

Dear Chairman Rahjes and Members of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources committee:

Thank you for allowing me to testify in favor of House Bill 2651, which is a fairness bill when it comes to landowners, tenant farmers, and companies that damage crops when conducting certain procedures on land with active crops.

This bill derives from the tenant farmers who have a vested interest in the crops that they have planted. It has come to my attention that private companies, all from varying sectors, are not adequately compensating the tenant farmer. For example, the tenant farmer has a sharecropping agreement with the landowner that the tenant farmer is to receive 2/3rds of the crop revenue and the landowner is to receive the remaining 1/3rd. In most cases, the tenant farmer and the landowner share the expenses by the same cost/share ratio.

An unfortunate event has been happening across the state, where a company is only reimbursing the landowner for damaged crops and no restitution has been made to the tenant farmer, even though the company is aware that a tenant farmer exists.

House Bill 2651 states that the companies must do due diligence to learn the particulars of the agreement between the landowner and the tenant farmer. Then funds need to be distributed pursuant to the content of that agreement. This bill rectifies the situation of the tenant farmer not being reimbursed for the hard work and loss of income due to the damaged crops.

With regards,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Troy L. Waymaster'.

Troy L. Waymaster
State Representative
109th Kansas House District

TW/le