



**Kansas Grain & Feed Association**  
**Kansas Cooperative Council**  
**Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association**

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Feb. 17, 2016

TO: Chairman Mark Hutton and Members  
House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development

From: Ron Seeber,  
Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA)  
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Assoc. (KARA)

Leslie Kaufman, President/CEO  
Kansas Cooperative Council (KCC)

RE: **HB 2595 - Support for limiting local jurisdictions' ability to impose piece-meal regulation on certain food products or the growing of crops and livestock.**

Chairman Hutton and members of the House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development, thank you for the opportunity to comment today in support of HB 2595 as it pertains to the food, grain and livestock industries.

I am Leslie Kaufman and I submit these comments on behalf of the Kansas Cooperative Council, Kansas Grain and Feed Association and the Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association. KCC's membership includes farm marketing and ag supply cooperatives, rural electric and telecommunications companies, insurance and risk management operations, credit unions and Farm Credit system members. Included in the KCC's membership are entities engaged in the food/food ingredient manufacturing process. KGFA is a voluntary state association with a membership encompassing the entire spectrum of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in the state of Kansas. KGFA's membership includes over 950 Kansas business locations and represents 97% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state. KARA is a voluntary trade association whose membership includes over 700 agribusiness firms that are primarily retail facilities supplying fertilizers, crop protection chemicals, and seed to Kansas farmers. Together, our agribusiness members handle millions of bushels of grain each year, provide many of the crop protection products needed by producers and support the food system in this great country. Thus, this bill is of interest to our associations and our members.

Our associations have long advocated for uniform regulation across jurisdictions in a multitude of situations. The provisions in HB 2595 which limit the ability to impose jurisdictional requirements related to the sale of certain food items and the raising of crops and livestock are beneficial to our members and to our state. They foster trade and avoid creating a patch-work of varying regulation from one area of the state to another.

We appreciate the features of this bill that apply to both the state and smaller subdivisions of government. Additionally, we are pleased the bill, if enacted, will not allow the state or local authorities to be more restrictive than the federal food, drug, and cosmetics act when it comes to nutritional labeling for menu items served by retail food establishments and via vending machines.

This bill is limited in its application, but at another time and through another bill, we think the same type of pre-emption should be extended to other types of food products and agricultural sales.

We believe HB 2595 is a good step toward avoiding piece-meal, jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction regulation of certain food items and some commodities. We respectfully ask for your support in advancing this concept. Please contact us if you have any questions. Thank you.

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