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JIM MINNIX
118TH DISTRICT

March 6th, 2025

I want to thank the committee for allowing me the opportunity to speak on behalf of HB2113
Transferring $2,500,000 each July 1 to match funding for conservation districts, providing for the enhanced transfer of moneys from the state general fund to the state water plan fund and sunsetting such enhancements and the water technical assistance fund and the water project grant fund on July 1, 2028. Conservation Districts to report water quality analysis to Kansas Geological Society to improve the water quality data base.

There is significant progress being made addressing our Water resources and there is much left to do.
This bill would build on the work of the 2023 Legislature to pass House Bill 2302 as well as additional funding for reservoirs and local infrastructure provided through the budget process over the past three years.

HB 2113 would increase funding in the water projects grant fund from $12 million to $18 million per year. This program allows for the construction, repair, maintenance, or replacement of water related infrastructure. In addition, these funds could be used for matching federal funds for loan or grant applications.

The need for infrastructure support in our communities is great, recent request for funds from the Kansas Water Office revealed the extreme level of demand for water funding. For example, in FY24 the Kansas Water Office received more than $380 million in applications for the $18 million in available grant funding. The Multiplying effect of these funds will be spent on long term
water infrastructure projects, or in the case of HB 2113 also water quality testing for domestic wells statewide. Access to clean, safe drinking water is the first line of defense for public health.

Water is the life blood of our Kansas cities, farms, and economy.

I encourage you to support the passage of HB 2113 there is no better investment in the future of the Kansas economy than a plentiful supply of clean water.

Representative Jim Minnix