KANSAS FARM BUREAU®
The Voice of Agriculture®

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To: Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, Senator Peck, Chair

From: Kent Askren, Public Policy Director for Kansas Farm Bureau

Date: March 10, 2025

Re: Written testimony providing support of HB 2113 as amended

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Chairman Peck and members of the committee, on behalf of Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2113. KFB is the state's largest general farm organization representing more than 30,000 farm and ranch families through our 105 county Farm Bureau associations.

In 2023, KFB President Joe Newland provided testimony in support of the provisions of HB 2302 to increase funding of the State Water Plan (SWP) by means of state general fund or dedicated statewide revenue sources. As we are all aware, this historic bill passed the legislature and became law providing additional revenue to address the plethora of water challenges we are facing.

We now have a better understanding of the demand for additional resources and projects that are ready to fund and implement to help address aquifer overdraft, reservoir sedimentation, water quality concerns and antiquated infrastructure in need of replacement.

Adequate quantity and quality of domestic water, that *water used for sustaining basic household use* among other things, is vital to sustaining rural population in Kansas. This bill is one of the first to begin addressing this critical need and hopefully will not go addressed.

With passage of HB 2113, another step to help better and consistently fund the SWP will be taken. While there is still much more to accomplish, we must continue to elevate this issue so that Kansas can remain viable, with forever water supplies to help support our diverse economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2113.