Kansas Grain and Feed Association
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
Renew Kansas Biofuels Association
785.220.5211 | Randy@Kansasag.org

March 10, 2025

To: Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
From: Randy Stookey, Senior Vice President & General Counsel, Renew Kansas, KGFA, KARA
Re: **Joint, Written, Proponent Testimony on House Bill 2113, transferring funding each July 1 to match federal funding for soil 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.**

Chairman Peck and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2113. This testimony is submitted jointly on behalf of Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA), Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA), and Renew Kansas Biofuels Association (Renew Kansas).

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing, and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership includes over 950 Kansas business locations and represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state. KARA is an agribusiness industry trade association whose membership includes over 700 companies across Kansas. Renew Kansas is the trade association of the Kansas biofuels processing industry.

Our member grain elevators, biofuel processing plants, and agribusiness facilities contribute to the Kansas agricultural industry – our state's single largest economic driver. Our member companies provide gainful employment and good paying careers for thousands of Kansans located in rural areas across the state. These industries also function as good corporate citizens, paying millions of dollars in taxes annually which help to support schools and local government.

Our members industries are dependent upon Kansas farmers' ability to grow crops, and Kansas farmers depend on the availability of good weather, nutrient rich soils, and water. House Bill 2113 would build on the good work accomplished by the legislature in the recent House Bill 2023, by increasing, again, the public investment in conservation of our state's water resources and water infrastructure. This funding has helped Kansans, and the agricultural sector, to implement sound and beneficial water conservation practices aimed at extending the life and quality of Kansas groundwater and surface water.

Such public investment is essential for Kansas, rural communities, and the agricultural industry to continue to survive, and thrive, for decades to come. For these reasons, we stand in support of the bill.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2113. We respectfully request that the committee pass the bill out favorably.