KANSAS LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION

Since 1894

Date: March 10, 2025

To: Senate Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
Sen. Virgil Peck, Chair

From: Aaron M. Popelka, V.P. of Legal and Governmental Affairs, Kansas Livestock Association

Re: **HB 2113 AN ACT concerning water; relating to conservation districts; transferring $2,500,000 each July 1 to match federal funding for conservation districts; requiring conservation districts to provide water quality sampling and the resulting aggregate data to the state geological survey; relating to funding for the state water plan and water infrastructure projects; making and concerning appropriations for fiscal years 2026, 2027 and 2028 for the state treasurer; providing for the enhanced transfer of moneys from the state general fund to the state water plan fund; requiring the Kansas water office to transfer appropriations for the water technical assistance fund, the water projects grant fund and the Kansas matching grant fund; matching grant funds to individuals and entities within water conservation areas and local enhanced management areas for new water technology adoption.**

Position: Proponent, In-Person

The Kansas Livestock Association (KLA), formed in 1894, is a trade association representing nearly 5,700 members on legislative and regulatory issues. KLA members are involved in many aspects of the livestock industry, including seed stock, cow-calf, and stocker cattle production; cattle feeding; dairy production; swine production; grazing land management; and diversified farming operations.

Thank you, Chairman Peck, and members of the Committee, for allowing the Kansas Livestock Association (KLA) the opportunity to share our support for HB 2113.

HB 2113 builds on the historic funding for the state water plan provided by HB 2302 during the 2023 legislative session. Since the legislature provided this additional funding to the state water plan, state agencies and stakeholders identified further water conservation needs.

One area identified as an additional need is the stockwater conservation initiative. HB 2302 directed the Kansas Water Authority to set aside stockwater fees for use in a stockwater conservation program. In the first year, applications for this program exceeded available funds by approximately three times those available. HB 2113 would further this initiative and others important to agriculture.

KLA appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony as a proponent of HB 2113. We ask that the Committee recommend the bill favorable for passage.

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