



February 6, 2025

The Honorable Ken Rahjes, Chairperson  
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources  
300 SW 10th Avenue, Room 112-N  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

**Re: HB 2063 AN ACT concerning natural resources; relating to state moneys for conservation; establishing the state conservation fund, the working lands conservation fund, the wildlife conservation fund and the Kansas outdoors fund**

**Position: Opponent**

*The Kansas Cattleman's Association (KCA) formed in 1998 serves USA agriculture and independent beef producers since 1998. The Kansas Cattlemen's Association is committed to restoring profits, self-esteem, freedom, fair trade, trust, and community pride back to the farms, ranches and rural communities across Kansas and the nation.*

The Kansas Cattlemen's Association (KCA) and its members are opposed to House Bill 2063 and its creation of a state conservation fund.

Private property rights and protection of landowner's rights are supported by the membership of KCA. Rather than supporting working landowners this bill provides state agencies, government entities and non-profits funding in the name of conservation on private working lands. Access to conservation grant funding through public and private sources are already available to the landowners, public entities, non-profits and companies throughout Kansas and the United States.

Not only does this bill not provide the funds directly to actual landowners and workers of the land, but it also lacks real prescribed restrictions and goals for the use and application of these funds. The funding administration and grant rules have been left out of this bill and left for the unelected state agencies to determine, eliminating the citizens of Kansas control of the funds that would be appropriated.

The Kansas Cattlemen's Association and its members oppose HB 2063 and its creation of a state conservation fund.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew T. Steele", is positioned above the printed name and title of the signatory.

Matthew T. Steele, Ph.D, P.E.  
Kansas Cattlemen's Association  
Executive Director