



To: House Committee on Agriculture & Natural Resources
From: Dana Hinderliter, P.E.
Kansas Society of Professional Engineers
Date: February 14, 2025
Re: Opposition Testimony for HB 2153

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our thoughts on behalf of the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) for HB 2153.

KSPE represents licensed professional engineers across the state, many of whom play a critical role in dam engineering and conservation efforts, ensuring sustainable water management and infrastructure safety. For over 120 years, KSPE has worked to promote engineering by delivering professional development services, encouraging licensure, and advocating legislation and public policy for the betterment of the health, safety and welfare of the public.

After reviewing HB 2153, KSPE is concerned with several of the proposed changes to dams that may pose risks to public safety. These changes could weaken the oversight of dams that, if they were to fail, could cause damage to property and safety of the public.

Effective engineering oversight is vital to the safe design, construction, and upkeep of dams, as well as thorough inspections that help prevent failures with potentially devastating consequences. Consistent monitoring by engineers ensures early issue detection and timely interventions to maintain dam integrity.

KSPE is happy to work with the stakeholders to better understand the need for this bill and ways to ensure the dam safety provisions remain in place.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our thoughts for your consideration.