

Oral Testimony HB 2153

Hearing Date: 2-14-25

Proponent:

We support HB 2153 to benefit the agricultural community in the eastern third of the state. This legislation helps to simplify and bring opportunities for agriculture to hold and store excess water for beneficial purposes. By building more ponds to store water and increasing irrigation, we can drive more economic growth in the area, increasing jobs and taxes collected by the state. Structures of this size have not had any significant failures in the state of Kansas. Dams of this size for agricultural purposes would be very low-impact structures that are economical and can provide a great benefit to the taxpayer.

These structures collect and hold water during high-flow events and hold back sediment and nutrients that can then be reapplied or kept from going downstream in the system. As water levels decline in the western third of the state, we need to implement measures in the areas of the state that have excess water to improve agriculture and increase revenue and job opportunities.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to share and testify.

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