

**Written only proponent testimony in support of HB2476**

**House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, January 21, 2026**

**Josh Roe, CEO, Kansas Corn Growers Association**

Good afternoon, Chairman Rahjes and members of the committee, my name is Josh Roe, and I serve as CEO of the Kansas Corn Growers Association (KCGA). KCGA represents more than 1,000 members on state and national legislative and regulatory issues and actively works with other organizations to maximize the voice of Kansas corn producers. KCGA stands in support of efforts to ensure that our producers have access to safe, reliable crop health products. This bill would ensure access to crop health tools in Kansas continue to be regulated by our nation's strong science-based regulatory system and protected against non-science-based actions from the courts.

Kansas farmers have been early adopters of soil and water conservation practices such as reduced and no-till farming. These practices are the vital building blocks of "regenerative agriculture", something that many farmers have been implementing for generations but has only recently caught on as a buzzword in national conversations. Personally, on my own family farm, we have implemented continuous no-till for over 30 years over most of our acres. These conservation practices reduce soil erosion by over 70% and improve the water-holding capacity of the soil allowing us to increase yields using less water. Additionally, farmers enjoy the reduced labor requirements and lower fuel usage that reduced-till and no-till practices bring.

However, these regenerative farming practices are only made possible by access to crop health products. Two vital crop health products that safely and effectively control non-desirable weeds and grasses are glyphosate and atrazine. Glyphosate and atrazine are two of the most studied chemicals in the world. The labels approved by EPA specify application rates, environmental conditions that must be applied under, timing, and applicator safety precautions that must be taken, among many other conditions. Additionally, EPA is implementing a herbicide strategy to ensure that crop health products such as atrazine do not pose a threat to threatened and endangered species. Starting in 2028, farmers in Kansas and across the country will be required to provide field-specific data to prove proper mitigation practices will be utilized to prevent runoff to use specific crop health products. At the same time, special interest groups continue to attempt to ban these vital tools through the court system, which would have far reaching environmental and economic consequences.

A vast majority of Kansas farms, including my own, will be forced to revert to full tillage practices if we lose access to these crop health products. This will erase generations of progress that farmers have made in soil and water conservation practices. Additionally, farmers will be faced with higher costs of production, an additional burden that we cannot afford in these trying times. For these reasons, KCGA stands in support of efforts to block non-scientifically based movements aimed at removing access to these vital crop health products. Enforcement of the labels that regulate pesticide use should be determined by the rigorous scientific standards imposed by EPA's regulatory process, not subject to non-scientific, rhetorical claims imposed by the courts.

For decades, KCGA has been a leader in working with regulatory agencies on approving science-based labels allowing for the use of pesticides, and we will continue to be at the table to ensure that environmental and applicator safety is at the forefront. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony and do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or comments. Conveying the amazing work of our Kansas farmers to protect our environment and health while producing safe and affordable crops to feed and fuel the world is what we are most passionate about.

