

2/17/25

HB2279

Oral Proponent

Chairman Kessler and committee members, I stand in strong support of HB2279 exempting Kansas Wildlife and Parks from the \$200,000 economic impact over 5 years totaling one million dollars over 5 years. I supported HB2648 last when it passed in the legislature.

However, when I realized how it affected the KWP and wildlife issues, I am looking for an exemption.

For instance, The KWP commission was working on a regulation involving non-resident waterfowl in Kansas which many other states are also dealing with for the last two years. Before they could pass the regulation, HB2648 went into effect because it could cause over a \$200,000 impact on economic impact. Try to figure out the economic impact of the regulation change: hotel rooms, meals, gasoline, decline in permit sales and on and on. KWP would more than likely have to hire a university to do a study like that.

Because of the length of time to do the study, I now have a bill in the legislature to address the non-residential waterfowl regulation, which I believe was the idea behind HB2648. Legislative oversight of Rules and Regulations, is that what we really want, more bills in the legislature that deal with wildlife?

Another issue with HB2648 and wildlife is that of disease and population decline due to a variety of issues.

What if bird flu gets into our wild turkey populations and we have to stop selling turkey permits. The economic impact would be over \$200,000. We need to deal with that immediately, not wait for the impact study or the legislature to be in session to pass a bill.

What about chronic waste disease which we already have in the western part of the state. If KWP has to stop selling deer permits in certain areas and the economic impact was over \$200,000, we would have to wait for an economic impact statement or a bill in the legislature.

I think you see where I am going with this. These are just a couple of scenarios that show how hard wildlife issues are to deal with in HB2468.

I thank you for your time and will stand for questions at the appropriate time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Representative Will Carpenter

District 75