HB 2279 Opponent Testimony House Committee on Federal and State Affairs Wildlife and Parks Exclusion from REINS Tanner Tempel –Deputy State Director, Americans for Prosperity Kansas February 17, 2025



Chairman Kessler and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in opposition to House Bill No. 2279. My name is Tanner Tempel with Americans for Prosperity. I am here to express my concerns regarding the proposed legislation and its potential impact on our state.

Overview of HB 2279: Which exempts certain rules, including those by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks from legislative ratification for proposed rules with significant economic impacts.

- 1. **Exemption of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks:** The exemption of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks from the provisions of this bill raises concerns about fairness and consistency. All state agencies should be subject to the same standards and requirements to ensure a uniform regulatory process.
- 2. **Erosion of Legislative Oversight:** HB 2279 undermines the REINS Act, which ensures that elected representatives have the final say on costly regulations. This bill exempts the Department of Wildlife and Parks from this oversight, potentially allowing unchecked regulatory actions.
- 3. **Potential for Unchecked Regulatory Actions:** Without the checks and balances provided by the REINS Act, the Department of Wildlife and Parks could impose significant compliance costs on businesses, local governments, and individuals, potentially harming their operations and livelihoods.

Conclusion: This proposed approach may lead to unintended negative consequences by going against the constraints of the REINS act. I urge the committee to oppose this legislation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanner Tempel

Americans for Prosperity