



**House Committee on Federal & State Affairs**

**Presented by Eric Stafford, VP of Government Affairs, Kansas Chamber**

**Proponent Testimony on House Bill 2568- Wildlife and Parks Regulations**

**Wednesday, February 11, 2026**

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber represents small, medium and large-sized businesses across the state, advocating for policies which improve the economic climate in Kansas. We appreciate the opportunity to submit comments in support of House Bill 2568.

I am sure this committee is asking the question- Why would the Kansas Chamber take a position on a bill related to regulations for the Department of Wildlife and Parks? The answer is pretty simple: Two years ago, the Kansas Legislature passed a bill known as the REINS Act that requires legislative approval for regulations when it is found through the economic impact statement that the cost of implementation will exceed \$1 million over the first five years.

This is how the REINS Act was intended to operate. An agency makes the finding and provides stronger legislative oversight for the regulatory changes and their impact on citizens and industry. The Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations has no authority to stop problematic and expensive regulations that could have a significant impact on industry. But now, you have the authority to determine if these proposed regulations are reasonable. We extend our gratitude to KDWP for bringing this legislation to address their proposed regulations.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 2568, and I would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.