

**House Committee on Federal and State Affairs
Neutral Testimony of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
House Bill 2687**

February 12, 2026

Chairman Kessler and Members of the Committee,

The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks manages 46 state fishing lakes, 15 federal reservoirs, and several community fishing lakes. The state fishing lakes in Kansas range between 50 and 300 acres in size.

House Bill 2687 would prevent the Department from regulating the use of “aquatic aircraft” on waters under its control or jurisdiction. While the Secretary can designate areas where motorized aircraft landings and takeoffs can occur on certain waters, K.A.R. 115-8-13(d), the Secretary cannot make such designations on federal reservoirs. The Department does not regularly receive requests for aquatic aircraft to land on waters under the sole jurisdiction of the Department.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers and United States Bureau of Reclamation—both of which have jurisdiction over the federal reservoirs in Kansas—regulate the use of aquatic aircraft on reservoirs. In short, the regulation of aquatic aircraft in Kansas is solely a federal issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information on House Bill 2687. I am happy to provide additional information at the appropriate time.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher Kennedy
Secretary
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks