

February 13, 2025

Chair Susan Humphries and Members of the Committee
Committee on Judiciary
Kansas House of Representatives

RE: H.B. 2253 – Theft of Property – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Humphries and Members of the Committee:

The National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) is a national, century-old, not-for-profit organization supported by approximately 1,200 property and casualty insurance companies, including many who write business in Kansas. Working hand-in-hand with our member companies and Kansas law enforcement, we help to detect, prevent, and deter insurance crimes. While NICB provides value to our member companies, we also serve a significant public benefit by helping to stem the estimated billions of dollars in economic harm that insurance crime causes to individual policyholders across the country every year.

Law enforcement agencies and communities across the United States continue to be plagued by increased levels of specialty equipment thefts, including agricultural equipment. NICB has seen a steady increase in these reported thefts over the past three years. Theft of this equipment can have far reaching impacts on the agricultural industry and consumers and be devastating for family farms. Moreover, these thefts increase insurance costs for all.

House Bill 2253 protects hard-working farmers and consumers by establishing increased penalties for the theft of livestock and agricultural equipment. This proposal would go a long way towards helping stem the tide of agricultural equipment theft.

Accordingly, we respectfully request your support for H.B. 2253.

We thank you for considering our views. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at csepich@nicb.org or (847) 772-7667.

Sincerely,

Craig Sepich

Craig Sepich
Director
Office of Strategy, Policy, & Government Affairs
National Insurance Crime Bureau