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F. Irene Dirks, Mayor
Hardy Howard, City Administrator/Clerk

February 10, 2025

To: Representative Jim Minnix, Chairman House Committee on Water
From: Hardy D. Howard, City Administrator, City of WaKeeney
RE: Proponent Testimony on HB 2113


Dear Chairman Minnix and committee members:

Please use this letter as support for HB 2113 from the City of WaKeeney and its governing body. With over \$600 million in requests from the Technical Assistance and Water Projects grant funds the last two years, it seems deeply obvious that a need exists in Kansas to repair our aging water utility infrastructure. HB 2113 supports a small increase in funding to assist communities with these critical needs.

The City of WaKeeney was applied in both first two rounds for funds to evaluate our two underground clear wells and to begin the process of replacing an aging pipeline that brings water from our well field into town. It is the only way water gets from our wells into the distribution system and is a critical link in our system. We have had multiple breaks in the line over the past 10 years.

Thank you for your consideration for all communities in Kansas.

Sincerely,



Hardy D. Howard
City Administrator
City of WaKeeney