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**To: House Committee on Water, Representative Jim Minnix, Chair**

**From: Kent Askren, Public Policy Director for Kansas Farm Bureau**

**Date: February 11, 2025**

**Re: Written testimony providing support of HB 2113**

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Chair Minnix and members of the committee, on behalf of Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) I want to thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2113. KFB is the state's largest general farm organization representing more than 30,000 farm and ranch families through our 105 county Farm Bureau associations.

In 2023, KFB President Joe Newland provided testimony in support of the provisions of HB 2302 to increase funding of the State Water Plan (SWP) by means of state general fund or dedicated statewide revenue sources. As we are all aware, this historic bill passed the legislature and became law providing additional revenue to address the plethora of water challenges we are facing.

We now have a better understanding of the demand for additional resources and projects that are ready to fund and implement to help address aquifer overdraft, reservoir sedimentation, water quality concerns and antiquated infrastructure in need of replacement.

HB 2113 will bring additional resources to help address water challenges that affect every Kansan. With passage of HB 2113, another step to fully and consistently fund the SWP will be made. While there is still much more to accomplish, we must continue to elevate this issue so that Kansas can remain viable, with forever water supplies to help support our diverse economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2113.