



**Before the House Committee on Water
HB 2113**

**Joint Written Proponent Testimony
of Kansas Department of Agriculture, Kansas Department of Health and
Environment, and Kansas Water Office
February 11, 2025**

The Kansas Department of Agriculture, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and Kansas Water Office jointly stand in support of HB 2113 for funding of projects that support goals of the State Water Plan to secure water for all Kansans. This bill would build on the work of the 2022 Legislature to pass House Bill 2302 as well as additional funding for reservoirs and local infrastructure provided through the budget process over the past three years.

In spending State Water Plan funding, the agencies have seen promising results across the state. These include successful drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects for small towns, funding for watershed protection to reduce nutrient runoff and sediment erosion, and funding livestock and irrigation technology projects that conserve water. The agencies have attached the Kansas Water Plan Budget Accomplishments for more information. This funding has already achieved a great deal of progress, but it also revealed the extreme level of demand for water funding. For example, in FY24 the Kansas Water Office received more than \$380 million in applications for the \$18 million in available grant funding.

The agencies were active partners in the Kansas Water Authority's local consult process over the course of 2024 and heard from the public and stakeholders on these important issues. Across the state, Kansans voiced water concerns in all five planks of the Kansas Water Plan. These concerns reflect sincere problems facing the State of Kansas, and none are simple to solve.

Based on the public feedback and the agencies' firsthand experience in the extreme demand for water funding, the agencies support HB 2113.