

TESTIMONY
HOUSE WATER COMMITTEE
HB 2462

On behalf of *Southwest Kansas Coalition*

January 22, 2026

PROPONENT

Chairman Minnix and members of the House Water Committee, on behalf of Southwest Kansas Coalition, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on HB 2462. The availability of water resources for communities in western Kansas remains a concern and a potential impediment to growth. However, these conditions also highlight opportunities to conserve and reuse water resources. The opportunities are not only for local governments but also for community and business partners who invest in the region's future.

Southwest Kansas Coalition supports the development of reuse regulations by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for indirect potable reuse and direct potable reuse. The Cities of Garden City and Dodge City are currently designing water reuse projects to ensure long-term water stability and continued growth and prosperity in our region. While there are no projects planned in the immediate future for either indirect or direct potable reuse, water reuse utilities will likely revisit reuse strategies in their long-term resource and capital improvement planning activities. The cities currently engaged in reuse planning believe that the establishment of indirect and direct potable reuse regulations developed by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), with public input and review, will be a catalyst for increased water reuse in Kansas.

The Kansas Water Plan recognizes the potential economic and environmental benefits of water reuse relative to single-use supplies and encourages Public Water Supply systems to promote reuse efforts as a specific implementation action. In the High Plains Aquifer, water reuse is identified as a strategy to reduce overall water use. A regulatory framework for indirect and direct potable reuse will provide communities with opportunities to pilot-test technologies, giving KDHE important feedback and providing citizens with valuable information that will influence public perception of these reuse opportunities. The regulation of Public Water Supplies has significantly impacted public health over the past century, moving into the water reuse space is a natural evolution of public health policy. Southwest Kansas Coalition looks forward to the passage of this legislation.



Southwest Kansas Coalition is a membership organization that includes the Cities of Dodge City, Garden City and Liberal with associate membership from City of Hays that actively participates in issues impacting the region.

