

House Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee on HB 2295

As Agreed to on March 14, 2011

Mr. Chairman,

Your Subcommittee on HB 2295 met on March 14 to discuss the major issues contained in HB 2295, dealing with various aspects of big game hunting. This bill dealt with a number of issues including definitions of who would be considered domiciled with a landowner, who would be qualified for a landowner or tenant hunt-on-your-own-land permit, who and when a person would be permitted to hunt with a crossbow, the extension of a female white-tailed deer hunting season until January 23, 2012, a change from the voluntary contribution to Kansas Hunters Feeding the Hungry, Inc. to a mandatory contribution, and an increase in the maximum permit fee for nonresidents in certain categories.

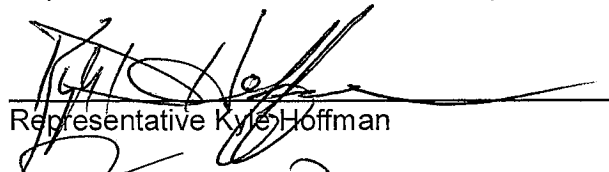
After discussion and deliberation with representatives of the Department of Wildlife and Parks, including the Secretary, your Subcommittee recommends that this bill be tabled until next year.

Your Subcommittee continues to believe that the issues contained in the bill are ones which will continue and it urges the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to communicate on a regular basis the steps it is taking throughout the year to curb the increases in the State's deer population. Your Subcommittee heard that the agency may be looking at a new youth season in the Fall, and encourages the agency to pursue this and other steps to curb the growth of the State's deer herd. The Secretary of the agency asked for a year to implement some of his ideas in an attempt to address the issues contained in the bill. Your Subcommittee agreed to grant this request, but recommends that the Committee retain this bill as a vehicle for future legislative action during the 2012 Legislative Session.

Sincerely,



Representative Willie Prescott, Chairperson



Representative Kyle Hoffman



Representative Jerry Williams