

Testimony before the House Committee on Ag & Natural Resources

In Support of the balloon on HB 2517

David Brenn, President - the Kansas Water Congress

February 1, 2012

Good morning, Chairman Powell and committee members. Thank you for the opportunity to present and submit this testimony on behalf of the Kansas Water Congress.

The Kansas Water Congress played a major role in working with both the private and public sectors to develop language and support of the original HB 2710 which established the water right transition assistance pilot program (WTAP). This Act was signed by the Governor May 10, 2006.

The Kansas Water Congress supports the balloon on HB 2517 as the deletions set forth in the balloon will make a program more accessible to interested parties and therefore establish a tool for real conservation of water.

Two other positive aspects of the bill are the making of (WTAP) permanent and the fact that funding for the program can come from federal government state government or private sources.

In closing, the Kansas Water Congress believes that the Water Transition Assistance Program is a viable program and should be extended or made permanent, based upon the proposed balloon.

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony on this important legislation.