



DATE: March 13, 2013

TO: Senate Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government

FROM: Randy E. Stookey, General Counsel
Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA)
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA)

RE: Written testimony in support of SB 211, regarding elections, municipalities, and date change for primary and general elections.

Chairman Pyle and members of the Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government, thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of SB 211.

The KGFA is a voluntary state-wide trade association with a membership encompassing the entire spectrum of the grain receiving, storage, processing and shipping industry in the state of Kansas.

KARA's membership includes over 700 agribusiness firms that are primarily retail facilities which supply fertilizers, crop protection chemicals, seed, petroleum products and agronomic expertise to Kansas farmers.

Our member associations support SB 211. We believe that moving the date of the state and local primary elections to coincide with the federal elections will provide crucial cost savings to the state and local communities at a time when minimizing these expenses is becoming increasingly important.

Additionally, as our state taxation and budgeting methodology continues to evolve to support the growth in industry, employment, and personal and family incomes, we believe that SB 211 will lead to a greater participation by the state electorate to weigh in on these important decisions.

We thank this Committee for the opportunity to provide written comments on behalf of the Kansas Grain and Feed Association and the Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association. We would ask the Committee to pass SB 211 out of the committee favorably.