



Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association

816 SW Tyler, Topeka, Kansas 66612

Date: February 12, 2018
To: House Committee on Agriculture
From: Shahira Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs

RE: Proponent Testimony on HB 2619, electronic pesticide application records

Chairman Hoffman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to comment today on House Bill 2619. This proponent testimony is submitted on the behalf of the Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA).

KARA is a voluntary trade association whose membership includes over 700 agribusiness firms in Kansas that supply fertilizers, crop protection chemicals, seed, and agronomic expertise to farmers.

Many of KARA's members are also licensed commercial pesticide applicators, which routinely create written records when they apply pesticides. Therefore, this bill is of interest to our association.

The Kansas pesticide law currently requires written records of all commercial pesticide applications to be made and maintained by the pesticide application business. The law also requires that a copy of each record be given to the owner of the target property or customer.

Current technology allows for property owners to receive nearly instantaneous notification of a pesticide application to their property. However, the Kansas pesticide law was written prior to electronic communication methods commonly used today.

As drafted, HB 2619 would amend the Kansas pesticide law to recognize electronic communication as a valid form of notification of a commercial pesticide application, if the customer agrees to receive the notification in an electronic format. This is a common sense amendment to update the law to reflect current technology and modes of communication.

For that reason, KARA stands as a proponent to this bill and requests that the Committee pass the bill out favorably. Thank you for your consideration.