



Kansas Grain and Feed Association  
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March 14, 2023

To: Senate Judiciary Committee  
From: Randy Stookey, Senior Vice President & General Counsel, Renew Kansas, KGFA, KARA  
Re: **Joint Proponent Written Testimony on House Bill 2326, extending the sunset date on the scrap metal theft reduction act and clarifying that catalytic converters are covered by the act.**

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Chair Warren and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 2326. This testimony is submitted jointly on behalf of Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA), Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA), and Renew Kansas Biofuels Association (Renew Kansas).

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing, and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership includes over 950 Kansas business locations and represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state. KARA is an agribusiness industry trade association whose membership includes over 700 companies across Kansas. Renew Kansas is the trade association of the Kansas biofuels processing industry.

Our member grain elevators, biofuel processing plants, and agribusiness facilities contribute to the Kansas economy and provide gainful employment at livable wages for thousands of Kansans across the state. These industries function as good corporate citizens, paying millions of dollars in property taxes annually in support of schools and local government.

The scrap metal theft reduction act was originally adopted as an attempt to respond to growing concerns of scrap metal theft across the state. This theft often times included copper wire stolen from agricultural center-pivot irrigation equipment and other industrial sites which negatively impacts our member agribusinesses and agricultural production in general.

For this reason, our organizations joined other industries and stakeholders in supporting the original passage of the act, which has assisted law enforcement in slowing down metal theft, and the unlawful sale of stolen metal. House Bill 2326 would extend the effective period of this beneficial act to 2028.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2326. We would respectfully request that the committee pass the bill out favorably.