Kansas Senate Judiciary Committee

Senator Kellie Warren Chairwoman

SB283

03/21/2023

Proponent

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Written Only

Chairwoman Warren and Members of the Committee,

I am aware that China and possibly other countries have been purchasing land across the United States. This bill would deter them from purchasing property in Kansas. I do have a concern with regard to the quantity of acres allowed. Why 10 or more? Why not 5 or more? Are there any restrictions to prohibit a buyer from purchasing multiple adjacent parcels of property less than the 10 acre restriction? I could see someone convincing a seller, especially a desperate seller, to dispose of a large section of property in multiple sections thereby avoiding the provisions of this legislation.

Section 1 (2), lines 15-20 also concern me. Do you think it wise to give the Secretary of Agriculture sole discretion to add or remove a government or non-government person from the definition of "foreign adversary"? Yes, the statute requires them to give "due consideration" to several factors, but this seems to provide an avenue for potential corruption. I would suggest legislative approval be required before making any changes to the definition of "foreign adversary".

I encourage the committee to consider my comments, but also to recommend SB283 be passed favorably out of committee.

Kari Sue Vosburgh Sedgwick County Precinct Woman