



An association of elk and deer breeders committed to the development of their herds and the cervid industry in the state

Kansas Cervid Breeders Association

Date: February 6, 2013
To: Senate Agriculture Committee
Sen. Garrett Love, Chairman
From: Travis Lowe, Kansas Cervid Breeders Association
Re: Support of SB 57

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Travis Lowe appearing on behalf of the Kansas Cervid Breeders Association (KCBA). Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 57.

The KCBA represents the farmed elk and deer breeders in the state. Elk and deer are part of the cervid species, which includes all members of the deer family. Since the 1980's, domestic elk and deer have been raised across the state that cater to several markets. The Kansas cervid industry contributes to the overall \$3.3 billion dollar national cervid industry.

SB 57 is the animal health bill introduced by the Kansas Department of Agriculture that addresses domestic deer (cervids), poultry, and pets. The KCBA would like to briefly comment on the cervid component of the bill. The cervid language in the bill, Sections 2, 3, and 17, is the product of a joint effort of compromise between the Kansas Department of Agriculture and the KCBA leadership. The two groups met numerous times to ensure everyone was comfortable with the changes. Section 17 is essentially cleanup language that more clearly spells out enforcement measures and the deer license process.

The changes ensure every owner of elk and/or deer must purchase a license from the Kansas Department of Agriculture. The language offers a clear enforcement process for owners that have failed to purchase a license. Moreover, the language raises the cap for the license fee. The license fee is based on a tiered system of the number of cervids owned.

The KCBA respectfully asks the committee to support the passage of this bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to speak on this matter.