

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

MADAM PRESIDENT:

The Committee on **Agriculture** recommends **HB 2061** be amended on page 3, in line 41, after "resources" by inserting "with conservation easements"; also in line 41, after "for" by inserting "the";

On page 4, in line 7, after "the" by inserting "acquisition and"; also in line 7, by striking "compensatory"; in line 8, by striking all before the comma and inserting "conservation easements"; in line 9, by striking all after "the"; in line 10, by striking all before the first comma and inserting "terms of the conservation easement are met";

Also on page 4, following line 23, by inserting:

"(h) All costs associated with compensatory mitigation, including, but not limited to, the costs of any litigation or civil fines or penalties, shall be paid by the watershed district for which the Kansas department of agriculture division of conservation holds the conservation easement.

(i) (1) Except as provided in subsection (i)(2), the Kansas department of agriculture shall not expend moneys appropriated from the state general fund or from any special revenue fund or funds for the purpose of accepting, purchasing or otherwise acquiring conservation easements.

(2) The Kansas department of agriculture may expend moneys in the conservation fund established by this section for the purpose of accepting, purchasing or otherwise acquiring conservation easements.

(j) The Kansas department of agriculture division of conservation shall not accept,

purchase or otherwise acquire any conservation easement other than for the purposes of this section."; and the bill be passed as amended.

_____Chairperson