

-WRITTEN TESTIMONY

HB 2208

An Act concerning wildlife; relating to the transferability of deer permits.

House Agriculture Committee

Kansas Sport Hunting Association

www.huntkansas.org

Whitney Damron

February 14, 2017

PROPONENT

Good afternoon Chairman Hoffman and Members of the Committee:

I am Whitney Damron and I would like to express support for HB 2208 on behalf of the Kansas Sport Hunting Association (KSHA).

By way of information, the KSHA is the state's leading association representing all aspects of the hunting industry – hunting service professionals, game bird producers and related suppliers.

Landowners have sought the ability to recoup at least some of the cost for damage done to their property by deer herds and HB 2208 can be helpful in that regard. The restrictions placed in the bill would limit the ability of a landowner to obtain hunt-on-your-own-land permits and transfer or sell to nonresidents to hunt white-tailed deer. This right would not conflict with State permits, as they could only be offered when no more nonresident permits are available and the person seeking the permit does not already have a permit.

The bill is written to allow the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism to charge a transfer fee, which will help them administer any related costs and track the use of such permits and transfers.

The KSHA believes the Department can effectively manage this program and if its implementation has a material effect on the state's deer population or interferes with a prudent deer management program, it can be modified in later years.

On behalf of the Kansas Sport Hunting Association, we ask for your support of HB 2208.

Thank you.

WBD

Whitney B. Damron, P.A.

919 S. Kansas Ave.

Topeka, KS 66612

(785) 224-6666 - wbdamron@gmail.com