



**To:** House Water and Environment Committee, Rep. Tom Sloan, Chair

**From:** Tim Stroda, Kansas Pork Association

**Date:** February 6, 2018

**Re:** **HB 2564-** AN ACT concerning water; relating to the division of water resources; relating to irrigation systems, removal of end guns.

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Thank you Chairman Sloan and members of the committee. I appreciate the opportunity to provide written testimony in opposition to HB 2564. My name is Tim Stroda, and I am the President-CEO of the Kansas Pork Association (KPA).

KPA would like to point out some unintended consequences of this proposal. Many of our members use center pivots to spread the nutrients created at our farms. Banning end guns would lower the number of acres they have available for application by about 7 percent. While this may not sound like a big number, there are several things to consider:

- Depending on the situation, this could force the farm to find new application fields. If a field is available, another center pivot may be needed. If fields are not available, the farm may have to look at other avenues of nutrient application. Either would be a significant cost to the farm.
- The nutrients created at our farms are valuable as fertilizer. The acres precluded from application by the ban would now need another method of application or commercial fertilizer utilized. These are extra costs.
- Under the Kansas swine permitting statutes, banning the use of end guns would constitute a significant change to the farm's management. This would necessitate a change in the farm's Manure Management Plan and Nutrient Utilization Plan. For most farms, there is a cost to have a consultant alter these plans.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB 2564.

# Kansas Pork Industry Facts



## **Pork farmers make Kansas better**

1. There are about 1,000 hog farms in Kansas. Of these operations, 150 produce over 99% of the state's pigs.
2. Kansas is the number 10 state in hog and pig inventory producing about 2.7 percent of the nation's total.
3. In 2017, Kansas producers sold 3,282,258 market hogs, feeder pigs and seedstock with a gross market value of \$467,712,501. These hogs produced over 600,000,000 pounds of pork which helps feed millions of people in the U.S. and abroad through exports.

## **Pork industry important to Kansas economy**

Kansas pork farms consume over 30 million bushels of grain. Primarily, these operations utilize Kansas-grown grain sorghum and corn. At January 2018 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$90,000,000 on grain sorghum and corn this year.

Kansas pork farms also consume the equivalent of over eight million bushels of soybeans through soybean products. At January 2018 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$72,000,000 on soybean meal this year.

Kansas pork farmers support suppliers of goods and services to their businesses. A short list of vendors includes:

- **Feed suppliers** - grain and nutritional supplements.
- **Construction** - includes new building and maintenance.
- **Labor** - as with any business, growth means increased labor needs.
- **Supplies** - pork producers utilize Main Street businesses for a vast array of items ranging from veterinary supplies to office supplies.
- **Equipment** - pork producers utilize specialty equipment for many tasks including nutrient management.
- **Utilities** - gas, propane and electric.
- **Trucking** - producers utilize trucking to bring grain to the farm as well as hauling hogs to market.
- **Services** - pork producers utilize many services along Main Street including financial, medical, accounting, legal, engineering, and veterinary.