



**To: Chairman Sloan  
Members of the House Committee on Water & Environment**

**From: Darci Meese, Manager Legal/Government Relations  
WaterOne (Water District No. 1 Johnson County)**

**Date: February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**RE: Testimony in Opposition to House Bill 2528**

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On behalf of WaterOne, I again want to express gratitude to the Chair and Committee for continuing to develop ideas to fund the Water Plan.

The intent behind House Bill 2528 is certainly appreciated and it is difficult to oppose the idea of an increased transfer of EDIF money to the Water Plan. However, we believe our efforts would be more well spent in focusing upon restoration of the existing funding sources and levels. Additionally, prioritizing funding allocations to specific research priorities in statute is problematic. The Kansas Water Authority should retain the flexibility to direct the Water Office on spending priorities as information is provided by the agencies and stakeholders that are on the ground dealing with water issues daily.

We respectfully request this Committee continue to request the restoration of the existing and statutorily required \$6 Million General Fund transfer and the \$2 Million EDIF transfer. We would also urge the Committee to further discuss and explore the Blue Ribbon Task Force recommendations for funding.

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