



**Kansas Grain and Feed Association
Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association
Renew Kansas Biofuels Association**
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To: Senate Committee on Agriculture
From: Randy Stookey, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs
Date: February 5, 2020
RE: Proponent Joint Testimony on SB 286, amending the Kansas storage tank act by increasing the maximum liability of and extending the sunset of the aboveground fund and the underground fund

Chairman Kerschen and members of the Committee on Agriculture, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 286. This testimony is submitted jointly on behalf of Kansas Grain and Feed Association (KGFA), Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association (KARA), and Renew Kansas Biofuels Association (Renew Kansas).

KGFA is the state association of the grain receiving, storage, processing, and shipping industry in Kansas. KGFA's membership includes over 950 Kansas business locations and represents 99% of the commercially licensed grain storage in the state. KARA is an agribusiness industry trade association with membership of over 700 companies across Kansas. Renew Kansas is the trade association of the Kansas biofuels industry in Kansas. Members of each of these associations fall under the regulatory umbrella of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's Bureau of Environmental Remediation.

Senate Bill 286 would amend the aboveground and underground petroleum storage tank release trust funds. These funds provide financial assistance to qualifying owners and operators of facilities for the cost of remedial actions where contamination from petroleum storage tanks has occurred. Members of our Associations often operate facilities with petroleum storage tanks, and some have availed themselves to these remediation programs.

The storage tank release trust funds are scheduled to be abolished on July 1, 2024. Senate Bill 286 would extend the existence of the aboveground and underground petroleum storage tank release trust funds to the year 2034.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to testify in support of the bill. Senate Bill 286 is a reasonable measure and the preservation of these funds is sound public policy. We respectfully request that the committee pass the bill out favorably.