



Kansas Sheriffs' Association

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**Testimony to the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
In Support of HB2244
March 17, 2021**

Chairman Kerschen and Committee Members:

The Kansas Sheriffs Association Supports HB2244. We appreciate the Department of Agriculture reaching out and working with us to develop this proposed solution to the difficult issue of effective disposal of “hot hemp.” Since the last session, the Federal Agencies have continued to provide more guidance on this issue. We continue to work with the Department of Agriculture to assure we contribute appropriately to comply with the state and federal guidance. It is critical to the citizens we serve that this process assures compliance without inconsistency between agencies. We believe the provisions of section 1 of the bill assures a smooth process for proper destruction when it is required.

It is important to us that our local taxpayers are not exposed to covering the cost of required disposal if it becomes necessary under federal or state rules for local law enforcement to have more involvement. That is also appropriately covered in this bill.

We also support section 2 of the bill to address the regulation of processors. By its nature, processing contains risks of both physical safety and also the highest point of risk of diversion of high THC content byproduct. We fully support the proposed process in section 2 involving the Office of the Kansas Fire Marshal. Given the safety concerns of the processing and the regulatory concerns with records checks of those involved in the processing, this is a very important solution. This amendment is unquestionably a positive step for public safety.

We urge you to move this bill forward favorably for passage.

Ed Klumpp
Legislative Liaison