

Senate Bill 263: Neutral Testimony

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House Agriculture

Rep. Kyle Hoffman: Chair

Representatives,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 263. While I believe this bill has the potential to be a step in the right direction, I also believe that it is far too narrow and too tied up in red tape to be any good.

With mountains of grain just laying on the ground all over the state, introduction of Industrial Hemp ie low-THC cannabis is a viable solution for farmers who desperately need a new crop. However, with all the restrictions laid out in this bill, it will likely be too little too late for most farmers.

Section 7606 of the Federal Farm Bill specifically authorized certain entities to “grow or cultivate” industrial hemp but did not eliminate the requirement under the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act that the importation of viable cannabis seeds must be carried out by persons registered with the DEA to do so. In addition, any USDA phytosanitary requirements that normally would apply to the importation of plant material will apply to the importation of industrial hemp seed. So I ask you, where will the seeds come from?

Either you believe in states' rights and individual liberty or you don't believe in states' rights and individual liberty. If you believe in state's rights and individual liberty, and understand that the premise of the Controlled Substances Act is flawed, then it is your duty to invoke Kansas' sovereign state rights by passing a bill repealing cannabis prohibition, thereby freeing up the agriculture community to grow without government interference.

Thank you for your time.