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March 21, 2023

House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources Written Testimony for House Bill 2437

RE: Oppose House Bill 2437

Dear Representative Rahjes and Committee Members,

We are members of the Kansas Pet Professionals and Tri-State Premier Pet Association. We hold a (animal breeder) license with the Animal Facilities Inspection Program. We are writing to ask that you oppose House Bill 2437 as written regarding the Kansas Pet Animal Act. Our organization has requested you to consider many amendments that should show that there are many things to discuss and establish than the few changes the department has introduced to you.

Many items introduced in House Bill 2437 can be addressed within regulation and would allow more latitude for the program and the industry. The program and act were developed by Kansas breeders, for breeders and this is the second year that the Kansas Pet Animal Advisory Board has not be made aware of legislation being submitted by the department until afterwards.

Until the department and program can be transparent and communicate with all industries this Act involves, no legislation should be passed. The department and program have damaged the confidence of the industry in them.

We ask that you oppose House Bill 2437 as written and consider the requested amendments.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope you vote to oppose House Bill 2437.

Sincerely,

Shirley & Darole Walton