



TO: House Committee on Agriculture

FROM: Tim Stroda, President-CEO, Kansas Pork Association

DATE: March 6, 2024

Written testimony in support of House Bill 2816

Chairman Rahjes and Members of the Committee:

My name is Tim Stroda. I am the President-CEO of the Kansas Pork Association. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2816.

Kansas pork farmers work hard to bring healthy, nutritious pork to families across the nation. They are committed to continuous improvement in food safety, animal well-being, the environment, public health, their employees and their surrounding community.

Any efforts to protect their animals and facilities is appreciated. They believe it is just common sense to encourage people to be honest on a job application. Our farmers believe any time spent worrying about trespassers and dishonest applicants is a wasted resource. They would rather be working to bring more bacon to your table.

The members of the Kansas Pork Association support HB 2816. Thank you for allowing me to provide this written testimony.

Kansas Pork Industry Facts



Pork farmers make Kansas better

1. There are about 900 hog farms in Kansas. Of these operations, 120 produce over 99% of the state's pigs.
2. Kansas is the number 11 state in hog and pig inventory producing about three percent of the nation's total.
3. In 2023, Kansas producers sold 3,310,310 market hogs, feeder pigs and seedstock with a gross market value of \$554,487,692. These hogs produced over 600,000,000 pounds of pork which helps feed millions of people in the U.S. and abroad through exports.

Pork industry important to Kansas economy

Kansas pork farms consume over 35 million bushels of grain. Primarily, these operations utilize Kansas-grown grain sorghum and corn. At January 2024 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$148,000,000 on grain sorghum and corn this year.

Kansas pork farms also consume the equivalent of over eight million bushels of soybeans through soybean products. At January 2024 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$94,000,000 on soybean products this year.

Kansas pork farmers support suppliers of goods and services to their businesses. A short list of vendors includes:

- **Feed suppliers** - grain and nutritional supplements.
- **Construction** - includes new building and maintenance.
- **Labor** - as with any business, growth means increased labor needs.
- **Supplies** - pork producers utilize Main Street businesses for a vast array of items ranging from veterinary supplies to office supplies.
- **Equipment** - pork producers utilize specialty equipment for many tasks including nutrient management.
- **Utilities** - gas, propane and electric.
- **Trucking** - producers utilize trucking to bring grain to the farm as well as hauling hogs to market.
- **Services** - pork producers utilize many services along Main Street including financial, medical, accounting, legal, engineering, and veterinary.