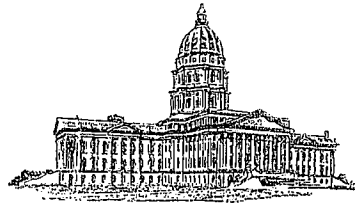


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Joe Seiwert
Representative, 101st District

- COMMITTEES:
- Energy and Utilities
 - Economic Development and Tourism
 - Veterans, Military & Homeland Security
 - Local Government
 - Vision 2020

Thank you Chairman Powell and the committee for allowing me to come here today and testify in favor of HB 2295, I will try to be brief and cover some of the highlights that I feel are important.

What the bill will allow is:

- Extend the antlerless deer hunting season seven days,
- Allow crossbows to be used during bow season.
- Includes provisions to include a contribution to Hunters feeding - the Hungry.

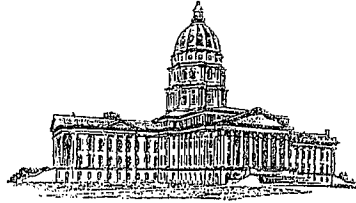
I support this action for several reasons listed below, but my main objective is to make the roads safer for the people of Kansas, and in turn help give meat to food shelters and food banks.

There are so many deer, that most bow and rifle hunters can pick and choose the one they want to shoot. I DO NOT have a problem with this as it is definitely the pride of all hunters to bag the trophy. However, what will happen over time, the population will climb to uncontrollable and it has.

The current method of controlling the population by hunting is not working as statistics show. However, W & P implemented an extended doe season the last two years. Many of the hunters and landowners in unit 15 think it has helped and feel it was successful, but still needs to be expanded.

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We need to weed out or cull the does and promote heard quality. This bill will accomplish this - and ultimately lessen the number of growing vehicle - deer collisions.

Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the committee, we have a duty to our citizens of Kansas to make the roads safe to drive on. We implemented seat belt laws, texting and cell phone laws and further in depth laws to secure safety on the roads last session, yet we let over 12,000 accidents happen last year, and over 100,000 in the last ten years alone due to deer accidents.

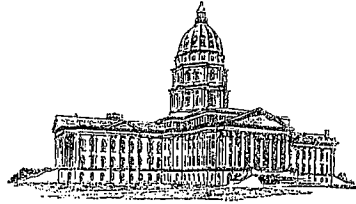
We are obligated to try to reduce these accidents. You will hear testimony by Wildlife and Parks that they are afraid of killing a few extra bucks that don't have antlers during a few extra days of an extended season.

I have attached letters stating that farmers have counted herds of all sizes from a 25 to over 50 in one field. If a great hunter were to shoot one deer a day in these fields for the total of the 21 days, they wouldn't even kill half of one herd.

Does any one of you on this committee want to tell the families of the people killed or injured in deer collisions that a few bucks are more important than the memory of their family members that may have died

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or were injured in one of these 12,000 plus deer accidents last year!

You will also hear testimony the Wildlife and Parks will lose millions of dollars in Federal funds if they have a fee charge to help hunters feeding the hungry. That simply put is not true. We have offered help with the way legislation is wrote to protect these valuable funds. I have talked with other states that have enacted legislation like this and will help us to do the same.

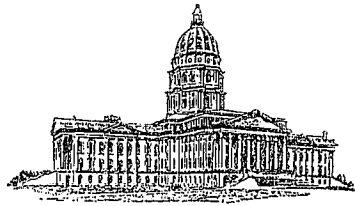
You will hear Wildlife and Parks testify that it's not the number of days, license or permits that's the problem, but access to farmers land to hunt. They will say its because it is leased to out of state hunters and they cannot get permission to hunt on it. That is simply not true also.

I have attached a number of letters from local farmers and landowners in this area totaling over 20,000 acres of land that they would let a qualified hunter to hunt antlerless deer in this extended season. They want the deer gone also. However, most land owners and farmers will not lease it for walk in hunting because they want to know the hunters and make lasting relationships with them. I personally have had over 20 hunters hunt on my land, half which I have only know for a year or two and have become friends with many of them.

In conclusion, I support HB2295 for all the positive reasons. I am trying to work with Wildlife and Parks to make the roads safe and also build a

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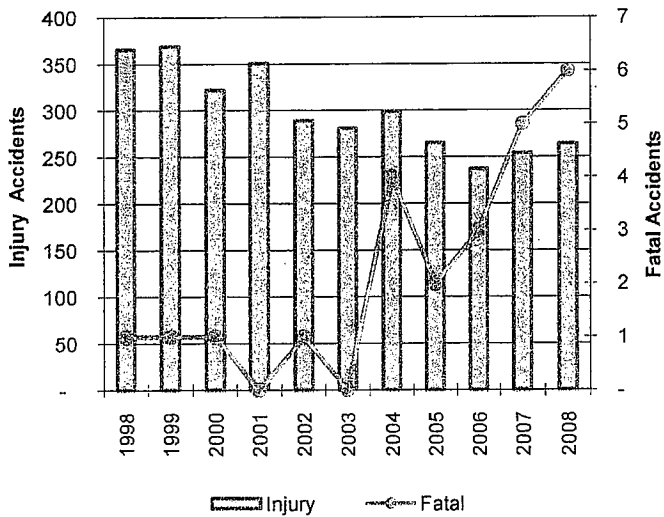
quality deer population for the State of Kansas, provide quality hunting for locals hunters, and help feed the hungry. With these additions to this bill, I believe we can start to improve highway safety along with a quality hunting program by reducing the doe population.

Joe Seiwert
Kansas State Representative
101st District

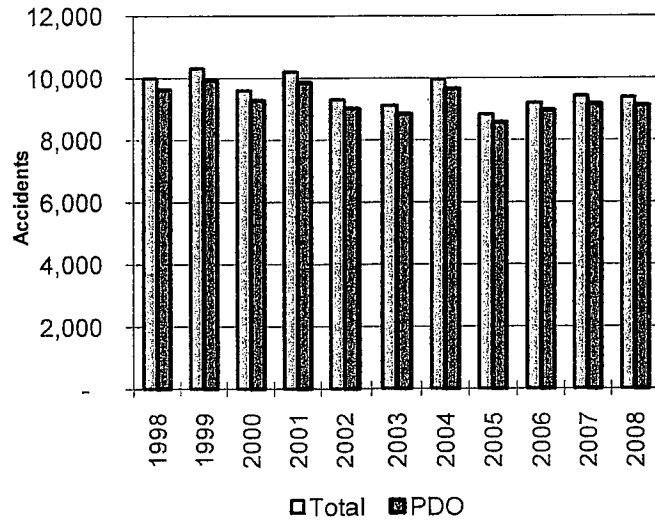
Deer Accidents

Year	Accidents				People	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	PDO	Deaths	Injuries
1998	9,990	1	366	9,623	1	439
1999	10,312	1	369	9,942	1	450
2000	9,591	1	322	9,268	1	384
2001	10,192	-	351	9,841	-	418
2002	9,296	1	289	9,006	1	341
2003	9,114	-	281	8,833	-	332
2004	9,952	4	299	9,649	4	364
2005	8,825	2	265	8,558	2	329
2006	9,197	3	237	8,957	3	291
2007	9,417	5	254	9,158	5	298
2008	9,371	6	264	9,101	6	318
Total	105,257	24	3,297	101,936	24	3,964

Injury & Fatal Deer Accidents



Total & PDO Deer Accidents



In 2008, 14.2% of all accidents in Kansas involved striking deer as the first harmful event.

Deer Hunting Research

Resident Permits/Licenses/Game Tags

Non Resident Permits/Licenses/Game Tags

2009-	149,667	30,111
2008-	143,188	27,276
2007-	137,550	28,385
2006-	139,572	23,169

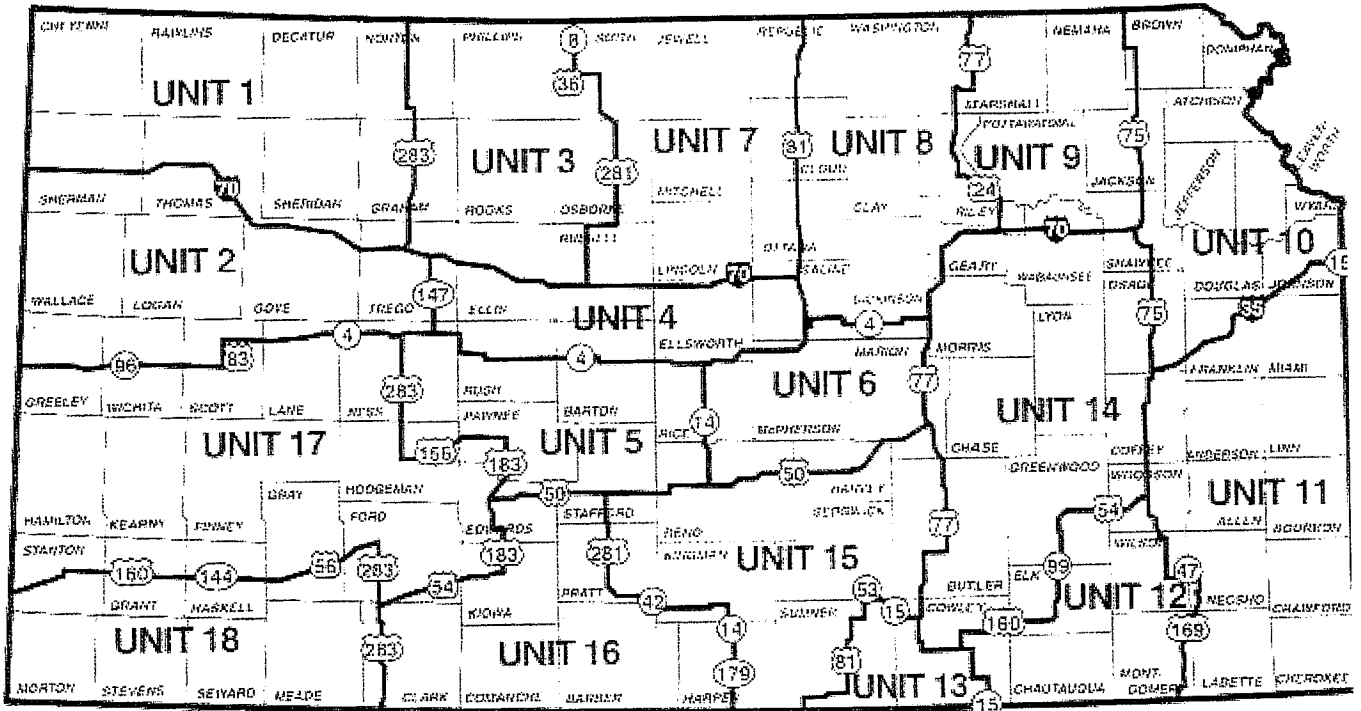
Deer Accident Research

Kansas Deer Accidents

Kingman County

Reno County

2007-	9,417 (5 Fatal)	125 Deer Accidents	288 Deer Accidents
2008-	9,371 (6 Fatal)	136 Deer Accidents	285 Deer Accidents
2009-	9,628 (5 Fatal)	121 Deer Accidents	265 Deer Accidents



No Special Extended Season
 Special Extended Season Open

For Testimonials

Among the 35 states where at least 7,000 deer-vehicle collisions occur per year (we are not including the percentage changes in the other 15 states plus D.C. because the lower volume of total collisions makes the percentage changes less credible), New Jersey and Nebraska have posted the largest increases, 54 percent. ***Kansas is next at 41 percent.***

STATE	Estimated number of deer-vehicle collisions July 1, 2008-June 30, 2009	Motor vehicle registrations as of November 2008	Likelihood of vehicle colliding with deer over the next year
KANSAS	11,902	2,429,064	1 in 204.09

Deer Accident Facts

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) there are 1.5 million car accidents involving deer per year. And, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, the average collision cost for this type of accident is \$2,800, with the figure leaping to \$10,000 if injury is involved. (DMV)

Statistically, one in every 100 drivers nationally is likely to have a collision with a deer at some time during their driving years. Mid-fall and mid-spring are likely times of the year for deer to be seen on roadways, because of breeding habits during the fall and growth of vegetation during the spring. (Kansas insurance journal)

According to KDWP biologist, Lloyd Fox, the increase in deer-vehicle crashes is strongly influenced by the deer mating season, with activity peaking in mid-November.

According to KDOT spokesperson Steve Swartz, there were 9,628 deer-vehicle collisions in 2009. Deer-vehicle collisions occur in every Kansas County. In most cases, counties with the highest populations recorded the most deer-vehicle crashes. Sedgwick County had the most crashes with 395, followed by Johnson County with 353 and Butler County with 286. More details, including a map showing all accidents and deer accidents by county, may be found on the KDOT web site.