Testimony of Joe Bisogno, Think Animals
In Support of SB 263
Before the House Agriculture Committee
March 14, 2018

Industrial Hemp Is Not Pot - But It Is A Pot Of Gold For Kansas

I care about Kansas. I want our state to succeed and I think allowing our farmers to grow industrial hemp is an important way to do that. I’m a businessman and have been involved successfully in entrepreneurial pursuits for many years. One of those businesses is Think Animals, which creates all-natural products designed to improve the health and well-being of livestock, pets and wildlife.

I see a real market for industrial hemp and think Kansas should quickly take part.

Let me provide some facts about industrial hemp. First, as the headline says, industrial hemp is not pot or marijuana. I have no interest in pot. The industrial hemp industry is projected to exceed $1.8 billion in sales for 2018. Industrial hemp allows manufacturing of more than 25,000 different products.

Industrial hemp plants need half the water of a typical wheat crop and can provide four times the profit of wheat. Kansas has many thousands of acres that can be cultivated, where as Kentucky has just 12,000 acres being cultivated in 2018. We can lead the nation in industrial hemp production and commerce.

Today the younger generation is likely to go to college and not return to their family farms, due to the fact there are few jobs and money to be made. Hemp farming will allow our communities to create commerce in many ways. We can also leverage the benefits of the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor, helping our farm and ranching communities.

Hemp oil has been shown to be a natural pain reliever, and it helps with quitting smoking and with getting off opiates. It has also been shown to help aid in epilepsy and other mental diseases. Other benefits include:

• helps fight cancer
• helps with PTSD and other anxiety disorders
• reduced inflammation, improved brain function
- helps lower blood pressure, cholesterol, strokes
- help lower the chance of heart disease
- helps with autism

Kansas can develop many manufacturing facilities to process products like horse stall bedding, kitty litter, hempcrete, paper and many more. Industrial hemp will create high paying jobs and state revenue we need.

Attached are some amendments that clarify the spirit and intent of the bill. I urge the committee to support the amendments and passage of SB 263.

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(b)(6) "Seed research" means research conducted to develop or rebrand better strains of industrial hemp, particularly for the purpose of seed production.

(6) (b)(7) "State educational institution" means the university of Kansas, Kansas state university, Wichita state university, Emporia state university, Pittsburg state university, and Fort Hays state university.

(7) "Tetrahydrocannabinol" or "THC" means the natural or synthetic equivalents of the substances contained in the plant or in the resinous extractives of cannabis or any synthetic substances, compounds, salts, or derivatives of the plant or chemicals and their isomers with similar chemical structure and pharmacological activity.

New Sec. 2. (a) The department, alone or in coordination with a state educational institution, or any grower, may contract with individuals and organizations, subject to the provisions of this section,

(1) Oversight and analysis of growth of industrial hemp to conduct agronomy research and analysis of required soils, growing conditions and harvest methods relating to the production of various varieties of industrial hemp that may be suitable for various commercial hemp products;

(2) seed research on various types of industrial hemp that are best suited to be grown in Kansas, including seed availability, creation of hybrid types, in-the-ground variety trials and seed production;

(3) analysis on the economic feasibility of developing an industrial hemp market in various types of industrial hemp that can be grown in Kansas;

(4) analysis on the estimated value-added benefits, including environmental benefits, that Kansas businesses would reap by having an industrial hemp market of Kansas-grown industrial hemp varieties;

(5) a study on the agronomy research conducted worldwide relating to industrial hemp varieties, production and utilization; and

(6) a study on the feasibility of attracting federal and private funding for industrial hemp research; and

(7) a pilot program in Russell county for the purpose of economic development and market research of industrial hemp and industrial hemp products.

(b) The department shall oversee and annually license all-persons (individuals) participating in the cultivation, growth, research, oversight, study, analysis or transportation of certified seed or industrial hemp pursuant to this act.

(c) (1) The department shall require, as a qualification for initial or continuing licensure, all-persons (individuals) seeking a license or license renewal under this act to be fingerprinted and to submit to a state and national criminal history record check. The fingerprints shall be

The department may contract with individuals and organizations, subject to the provisions of this section, to grow industrial hemp and sell hemp products to assist the department with the research required under this act.

, including the sale of industrial hemp and hemp products,

, or other counties as determined by the department,

sale,

or hemp products
used to identify the person (individual) and to determine whether the person (individual) has a record of criminal history in this state or any other jurisdiction. The department is authorized to submit the fingerprints to the Kansas bureau of investigation and the federal bureau of investigation for a state and national criminal history record check. The department may use the information obtained from fingerprinting and the criminal history record check for purposes of verifying the identification of the person (individual) and for making an official determination of the qualifications for initial or continuing licensure pursuant to this act and rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this act. Disclosure or use of any information received by the department for any purpose other than the purpose provided for in this section shall be a class A misdemeanor and shall constitute grounds for removal from office or termination of employment.

(2) A person (an individual) who has been convicted of any of the following shall be disqualified from initial or continuing licensure under this act: A felony violation of article 57 of chapter 21 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 21-36A01 through 21-36A17, prior to their transfer, or any felony violation of any provision of the uniform controlled substances act, prior to July 1, 2009.

(3) The Kansas bureau of investigation may charge a reasonable fee for conducting a criminal history record check.

(4) The applicant shall pay the costs of fingerprinting and the state and national criminal history record check.

(b)(d) The secretary of agriculture shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of the alternative crop research act on or before December 31, 2018. Such rules and regulations shall include, but not be limited to, a requirement that license holders shall have a current license in their possession at all times that they are engaged in cultivation, growth, research, oversight, study, analysis or transportation of certified seed or industrial hemp pursuant to this act.

(e) The department shall submit a report to the legislature outlining the steps and timeline to implement a process that would allow persons (individuals and business entities) to grow and process industrial hemp in Kansas and to sell industrial hemp in other states. Such report shall be submitted to the house standing committee on agriculture and natural resources on or before January 14, 2019.

(f) Nothing in the alternative crop research act shall be construed to authorize any person (individual) to violate any state or federal law.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 21-5701 is hereby amended to read as follows: 21-5701. As used in K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 21-5701 through 21--
morphismyl)ethyl, 1-((N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinyl)methyl, 1-(N-
methyl-3-morpholinyl)methyl, or tetrahydropyranyl)methyl group,
whether or not further substituted in the indole ring to any extent
and whether or not substituted in the benzyl or
tetramethylcyclopropyl rings to any extent.

(12) Indole-3-carboxylate esters
Any compound containing a 1H-indole-3-carboxylate ester
structure with the ester oxygen bearing a naphthyl, quinolinyl,
isoquinolinyl or adamantyl group and substitution at the 1 position
of the indole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl,
cycloalkylethyl, benzyl, N-methyl-2-piperidinylmethyl or 2-(4-
morpholinyl)ethyl group, whether or not further substituted on the
indole ring to any extent and whether or not substituted on the
naphthyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, adamantyl or benzyl groups to
any extent.

(13) Indazole-3-carboxamides
Any compound containing a 1H-indazole-3-carboxamide structure
with substitution at the nitrogen of the carboxamide by a naphthyl,
quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, adamantyl, 1-amino-1-oxoalkan-2-yl or
1-alkoxy-1-oxoalkan-2-yl group and substitution at the 1 position
of the indazole ring by an alkyl, haloalkyl, alkenyl,
cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, benzyl, N-methyl-2-
piperidinylmethyl, or 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl group, whether or not
further substituted on the indazole ring to any extent and whether
or not substituted on the naphthyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl,
adamantyl, 1-amino-1-oxoalkan-2-yl, 1-alkoxy-1-oxoalkan-2-yl or
benzyl groups to any extent.

(14) (1H-indazol-3-yl)methanones
Any compound containing a (1H-indazol-3-yl)methanone structure
with the carbonyl carbon bearing a naphthyl group and
substitution at the 1 position of the indazole ring by an alkyl,
haloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkylmethyl, cycloalkylethyl, benzyl, N-
methyl-2-piperidinylmethyl, or 2-(4-morpholinyl)ethyl group,
whether or not further substituted on the indazole ring to any
extent and whether or not substituted on the naphthyl or benzyl
groups to any extent.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2017 Supp. (21-5701, 21-5702-issf, 65-4101 and
65-4105 are) hereby repealed.
Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and become in force from and after its
publication in the statute book.