



**House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee  
Testimony on HB 2207**

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Madame Chair, members of the Committee, I am Tim Stroda. I represent the members of the Kansas Pork Association.

In the past two decades, our Association has provided numerous educational initiatives to our members promoting the idea of "being a better neighbor." We teach that talking with the surrounding community is an important part of our business.

While I strongly believe in this principle, I must admit in a very few isolated instances, this concept has worked against the livestock industry.

The language in House Bill 2207 gives farmers, who want to build new facilities or expand their existing facilities, some assurance that the process will move forward as long as they meet the guidelines.

As you know, Governor Brownback sees animal agriculture as a potential area of growth for our state. Our organization believes HB 2207 provides a message that Kansas is willing to help us toward that goal.

We hope the committee will acknowledge the good work of our members and provide support to the expansion of the livestock industry with a favorable consideration on HB 2207.

# Kansas Pork Industry Facts



## **Pork farmers make Kansas better**

1. There are about 1,500 hog farms in Kansas. Of these operations, 300 produce over 95% of the state's pork.
2. Kansas is the number 10 state in hog and pig inventory producing about 3.0 percent of the nation's total.
3. In 2012, Kansas producers sold 3,220,637 market hogs, feeder pigs and seedstock with a gross market value of \$560,499,256. These hogs produced over 500,000,000 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 30 million bushels of grain. Primarily, these operations utilize Kansas-grown grain sorghum and corn. At January 2013 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$210,000,000 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 2013 prices, the pork industry will spend over \$112,000,000 on soybean meal 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.