

Testimony
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Ron Trewyn, Ph.D.
National Bio and Agro-defense Facility Liaison
Kansas State University
House Bill 2109
Monday, February 20, 2017

Madam Chairwoman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ron Trewyn and I serve as the National Bio and Agro-defense Facility (NBAF) Liaison at Kansas State University. I would like to ask for your support for House Bill 2109. This legislation authorizes Kansas State University to sell two tracts of land adjacent to the NBAF site.

The first tract is 0.838 acres of property located in the University Research Park. When the State of Kansas transferred 46.828 acres of land on the Kansas State University campus to the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in December of 2012, it left 0.838 acres in the University Research Park that is owned by the Kansas State University Foundation. In 2013, the Foundation constructed the office facility in the Park that houses the Kansas Department of Agriculture and the contiguous 0.838 acres belonging to Kansas State University is undevelopable. Thus, the University is seeking authority to sell this 0.838 acres of property.

The second tract is an irregular shape comprising 17.54 acres located on the south side of Kimball Avenue and on the north side of the NBAF construction site. It is the current location of Kansas State University's Purebred Beef Unit. The NBAF Site Specific Risk Assessment conducted for DHS identified the Purebred Beef Unit as a potential security issue. As a result, DHS asked the State of Kansas and Kansas State University to consider relocating the Unit. A Memorandum of Understanding signed by DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano and Governor Sam Brownback in the fall of 2013 stated:

- ii. Recognize \$5.2 million of the actual cost of relocating the Purebred Beef Unit against Kansas' anticipated contribution of \$307 Million for the use towards NBAF.

The Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry is in the process of moving the Purebred Beef Unit from the property immediately adjoining the NBAF site as requested by the United States Department of Homeland Security. The University is seeking authority to sell this 17.54 acres of property.

Thank you for your time and I am happy to stand for questions.