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February 13, 2017

The House, Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Committee

RE: HB 2182

Elkhart Cooperative supports HB 2182.

Kansas is an agricultural state. Preserving our water and land is high priority. At the same time we need to continually be looking for opportunities. The "industrial hemp" appears to be one of those opportunities that Kansas should consider.

Our rural communities need to look for a revenue income outside of agriculture to keep our tax base. The oil and gas reduction in the area is creating a strain on our economy. The "industrial hemp" might be able to offer the balance needed between agricultural and industry.

Elkhart Cooperative would like you to consider support for the HB 2182.

Karen Hill

General Manager