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February 13, 2017

Re: Kansas Agricultural Growth Act

The House Commerce, Labor and Economic Committee

Dear Committee Members and Interested Parties:

My name is Tim Hardy. I am the City Administrator for the City of Elkhart, Kansas.

With minimal research, I have learned hemp can be refined into commercial items including paper, clothing, textiles, biodegradable plastics, animal feed, and building materials just to name a few. It is my understanding hemp requires few pesticides and no herbicides. The Governor's own 50 year Water Plan calls for alternative crop development. Worth noting is that the water requirement of hemp is 14 times lower than that of cotton.

The additional new markets of processing hemp and manufacturing hemp products hold incredible potential for economic development of a sustainable nature.

I respectfully request your support for the legislation to allow industrial hemp production in the State of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Tim Hard√

City Administrator

TH/hc