



KANSAS COOPERATIVE COUNCIL
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Date: February 14, 2018

To: Sen. Dan Kerschen, Chairman
Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

From: Mandy Roe, Director of Member Services
Kansas Cooperative Council

RE: SB 287: license renewal dates and late fees

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide neutral testimony on SB 287. The Kansas Cooperative Council (KCC) represents all types of cooperatively structured businesses including agriculture marketing and supply, utility, financial co-ops and consumer cooperatives.

My comments today will be limited to the provisions pertaining to late fees on pesticide business licenses. Currently, the application fee for a pesticide business license is \$140 per category in which the license applies. Many of our members have licenses that range from one category to three categories.

For example, Skyland Co-op, headquartered in Johnson, Kan., has a pesticide business license that includes two categories (\$280). Under the proposed bill, if they were unable to get their license renewed on time they would have to pay a fine of \$112. They also do business in Oklahoma and Colorado. The license fee and late fee for those states are outlined below.

<u>State</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Late Fee</u>
Oklahoma	\$100 per category	Doubles if not received by Jan. 1/ Triples if not received by Feb. 1
Colorado	\$350 fee	10 percent of the fee/ \$35

Our co-op members appreciate the good work the Kansas Department of Agriculture does to license and regulate the areas of our industry under their purview. It is always our hope that our members operate in a way that allows them to meet the deadlines outlined by the department. However, our members believe the late fee (40% of the fee) proposed in SB 287 would increase the cost of doing business for what might ultimately be a simple oversight, a computer error or a delay in the mail. The Kansas Cooperative Council would support language that would reduce the percentage of the late fee in the bill.

On behalf of the Kansas Cooperative Council, thank you again for the opportunity to share our concerns about SB 287.

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