

February 18, 2021

To: House Commerce Committee

From: Wes & Mary Beth Traul
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Subject: **Support HB 2331 – Landowner Transferable Deer Permit**

We are reaching out to the members of the House Commerce committee in support of HB 2331 for the following reasons:

- A.) This bill would allow landowners of the state of Kansas to transfer their landowner permits to a non-related third party.
- B.) By doing so a Kansas landowner could if they so desire lease hunting rights of their property at a fair market value. With current regulations the lease value of property is diminished as a possible leasee is not assured a deer permit. The current regulation places the Kansas landowner at an economic disadvantage in the market place.
- C.) The ability of the landowner to receive economic value for wildlife is an incentive for the landowner to improve habitat on their property, thus improving wildlife population across the state.

98% of the land mass in the state of Kansas is in private ownership, as a result the majority of wildlife habitat is in private ownership. The various game species in the state of Kansas depend on farmers and ranchers for their existence. It is time for the farmers and ranchers to have the ability to receive economic compensation for their support of wildlife.