

KANSAS HEMP SEED LAW GETS HEARING IN LEGISLATURE

Planted Association of Kansas

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TOPEKA, KS – Through an ongoing collaborative partnership with lawmakers and members including Kansas Hemp Consortium and South Bend Industrial Hemp, Planted Association of Kansas is excited to announce the introduction of House Bill [2168](#) that will provide updates to the commercial hemp program by encouraging participation and expanding economic pathways for producers and manufacturers to contribute to emerging supply chains.

As a result of continuous data gathering and meetings with stakeholders, Kansas Department of Agriculture and other groups have facilitated discussions around how hemp can best serve Kansas communities. Through these collective efforts Planted Association of Kansas members with input from Morgan Tweet with IND Hemp and Hemp Feed Coalition, identified the area of fiber/grain as a key 2023 state level policy priority. PAK extends its gratitude for this work and ongoing support from House Agriculture Committee Chairman, Representative Ken Rahjes, Senate Ag and Natural Resources Committee Chairman, Senator Dan Kerschen, Kansas Department of Agriculture and legislative committees.

The intent behind proposed changes is to encourage participation to improve program sustainability, and so farmers can harness seed/grain for already approved [criteria](#). Towards the goal of removing barriers, license fee decreases have been proposed as well as cost-cutting provisions in testing. As Kansas sits in the Animal Health Corridor where the largest percentage of our world's animal health research and development takes place, livestock and companion animal feed ingredients will gain a major boost through hemp seeds' robust nutritional profiles. Markets are seeing growing demands for hemp products and more Kansas processors are coming online. Because farmers are now expected to produce more with less while diversifying rotations using value-added crops, agricultural hemp is predicted to continue increasing in investment.

Planted Association of Kansas was formed in 2018 as the state's industry trade group supporting regenerative industries including industrial hemp. The organization's mission is to spread awareness, provide education and advocacy, networking opportunities, and promote sustainable best practices across the Heartland.

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