



**To:** House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources, Rep. Ken Rahjes, Chair

**From:** Nick Levendofsky, Executive Director, Kansas Farmers Union

**Date:** January 21, 2026

**RE:** HB2476 — Permitting federal pesticide warning or labeling requirements to satisfy any state pesticide warning or labeling requirements.

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Chair Rahjes and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition to HB2476.

Since 1907, Kansas Farmers Union has worked to **protect and enhance the economic interests and quality of life for family farmers, ranchers, and their communities.**

**HB2476 is being brought by pesticide manufacturers to avoid liability for misbranding or not labelling their pesticides and causing harm.**

- **This bill would give immunity to over 57,000 pesticides registered by the EPA.** This bill isn't specific to one company or one product, this bill provides immunity for every harm—Cancer, Parkinson's, birth defects—caused by any of the 57,000 pesticides registered by the EPA.
- **This bill is not necessary to protect access to glyphosate.** Bayer's statements to investors show they are not walking away from glyphosate-based herbicide sales to farmers. In addition, other pesticide companies like Albaugh LLC produce a generic glyphosate-based herbicide in St. Joseph, Missouri.
- **Pesticide companies can and should add warnings to their product labels.** EPA requires pesticides to have an approved label before sale, but that label is proposed by the pesticide company. EPA has approved warning labels on glyphosate-based herbicides and would approve them for Bayer if they asked.

Proponents of this bill argue that the choices before you are to either vote "Yes" so farmers can keep these tools or vote "No" and these tools will go away. **That is a false choice that only benefits the agriculture chemical industry now and will benefit other companies who will demand the same legal protections for themselves in the future.**

A "No" vote is a vote for Kansas farmers and communities. These tools will not go away if you stand with farmers instead of standing with the agriculture chemical industry.

**Instead of passing this bill, we should promote safer herbicide use by promoting better education efforts and by promoting the use of safer chemical formulations of these same chemicals that are now available and being used just as effectively around the world.**



Studies prove that farming is one of the most dangerous professions. Our farm families are exposed to any number of risks that are inherent in the job of raising food, feed, fuel, and fiber. **We proudly dedicate our lives and our livelihood to the task and take responsibility for our actions.**

We know farmers in Kansas rely on safe, effective herbicides. Unfortunately, the chemicals we farmers use, even when approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and described as safe by the manufacturer, have sometimes been proven to cause damage to their health. **Farmers must have the right to defend their health when chemical companies' products cause damage.**

**Family farmers can't and won't hide behind a label.** We are responsible to our families, our farms, and to our communities.

**Chemical companies should not be allowed to hide behind a label.** This legislation creates a liability shield so that even when their products are proven to cause health damage to farmers, chemical companies can escape accountability.

This bill would take away Kansans' ability to seek relief after they discover an illness or permanent injury that has been caused by a product that had been labeled as safe despite clear evidence presented in a court of law.

**Pesticide companies should not get a free pass for any future liability.** Our court system exists to protect us and hold those who cause harm accountable.

**Kansas law should protect its farmers and communities instead of pesticide companies worth billions of dollars.**

Thank you for this opportunity to speak in opposition to HB2476. I will stand for questions.

Sincerely,

Nick Levendofsky  
Executive Director  
Kansas Farmers Union