



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM**

BILL NUMBER: <b>HB 1295</b>		DATE: <b>2/25/2025</b>	
COMMITTEE: <b>Agriculture</b>			
<b>TESTIFYING:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>INDIVIDUAL:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: <b>arniedienoff@yahoo.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2025 11:22 PM</b>

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.**

**I am in Support of this Bill and the Protection of Water Natural Resources. However, the City of Joplin and the Joplin Region are lacking Water and NEED to build a New Reservoir to provide water for the area. We may need to bring in water from Oklahoma, Arkansas or Kansas.**



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>CASEY WASSER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-291-9809</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI SOYBEAN ASSOCIATION</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>734 S. COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65109</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2025 12:00 AM</b>	

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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>ELIZABETH SMITH</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-694-5787</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>THE NATURE CONSERVANCY</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>2011 WAYNE AVENUE</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65109</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JACOB KNAEBEL</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-893-4181</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>3118 EMERALD LANE</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65109</b>
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>JAMIE BLAIR</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-253-3934</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>MISSOURI RURAL CRISIS CENTER</b>		TITLE: <b>RURAL ORGANIZER</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>925 E LOVE ST</b>			
CITY: <b>MEXICO</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65265</b>
EMAIL: <b>jamie@morural.org</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>Written</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2025 10:28 AM</b>

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Thank you to the committee and to Representative Parker for sponsoring this legislation. My name is Jamie Blair and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of Missouri Rural Crisis Center and our farmer members throughout the state. I would like to begin my testimony today with a quote. "Every century is characterized by a key commodity, empire commodities, in the 1500's you had spices, 1600's sugar, 1700 and 1800's cotton, 1900's hydrocarbons and the 2000's going forward, I think it's really about water"- Edward Hargroves co-founder of GoldCrest Farm Trust Advisors. MR. Hargrove is a Venture capitalist that buys and leases farmland in water rich areas and leases it out..I pulled this quote from a documentary film that we were recently able to share with our members called "The Grab" that chronicles the current land grab underway globally for food and water resources. I urge members of the committee to watch this film if they haven't already. I wanted to start with this quote because I think that it highlights that the future of our economic, national and food security lies in access to clean water, for drinking and water for livestock and crops. Missouri still allows foreign ownership of Missouri land and farmland so there is little preventing companies and multinational corporations from exporting untold amounts of our water to parched places around the country (and potentially around the world) at the expense of Missouri farmers, rural families and our communities. We need to rectify both issues to safeguard our water for the future. Our neighbors to the west, while not blessed with the ample free flowing waters that Missouri is blessed with, were nevertheless well placed on the High Plains Aquifer and in particular the Ogallala aquifer. Through unchecked pumping, some 2 billion gallons per day pumped for agriculture alone, they are endangering the future water reserves for all Kansans. Soon they may turn to us for a solution. They could be coming for our water. Why wouldn't they? Many states further west are having as much or more difficulty managing their water resources and are looking for solutions. We do not want the draining of the State of Missouri to be their answer. In closing, Missouri water is one of our most precious resources and it should be protected from exportation and exploitation. Water is vital to many sectors of Missouri's economy including agriculture, outdoor recreation, and tourism. States without a regulatory framework for water exports have seen exploitation and degradation of their water resources, in some cases drastically lowering the water table and draining aquifers. Farmers and rural communities are often reliant on well water and will be the first harmed by unchecked water exportation. If passed, this law would be an important step in protecting this vital resource for future generations and I urge this committee to pass it. Thank you very much for your time.



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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>LYNNE SCHLOSSER</b>		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>1521 PEPPERWOOD DR.</b>			
CITY: <b>ST. LOUIS</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>63146</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2025 12:00 AM</b>

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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>MARK FIEGENBAUM</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-690-8580</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI FARM BUREAU</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>701 SOUTH COUNTRY DRIVE</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65102</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2025 12:00 AM</b>	
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<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>NANCY GIDDENS</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-230-6203</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION</b>		TITLE: <b>LOBBYIST</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>208 MADISON STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
EMAIL: <b>nancy@thegiddensgroup.com</b>	ATTENDANCE: <b>In-Person</b>		SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2025 8:10 AM</b>
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<b>Support the bill</b>			





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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>SHANNON COOPER</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>660-890-1432</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MISSOURI CATTLEMEN's ASSOCIATION; CITY OF KANSAS CITY</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: <b>208 MADISON STREET</b>			
CITY: <b>JEFFERSON CITY</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65101</b>
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<b>REGISTERED LOBBYIST:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>TONY BENZ</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-301-2747</b>	
REPRESENTING: <b>MO-AG</b>		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP:
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<b>WITNESS NAME</b>			
<b>BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:</b>			
WITNESS NAME: <b>IKE SKELTON</b>		PHONE NUMBER: <b>573-346-4440</b>	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: <b>CAMDEN COUNTY, MO</b>		TITLE: <b>PRESIDING COMMISSIONER</b>	
ADDRESS: <b>1 COURT CENTER NW</b>			
CITY: <b>CAMDENTON</b>		STATE: <b>MO</b>	ZIP: <b>65020</b>
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: <b>2/25/2025 12:00 AM</b>	
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