RESOLUTION NO. 130-00

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF FARMLAND IN SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas ("County") recognizes that agricultural activities significantly enhance the County's economic well-being and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the County acknowledges that agricultural activities, conducted in areas into which nonagricultural uses have moved, arc often subjected to nuisance lawsuits and that such suits encourage and even the premature removal of agricultural uses; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the County to protect farmers who use good management and agricultural practices from private nuisance lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to place non-farm rural residents on notice that generally accepted agricultural practices are reasonable activities to expect in the unincorporated areas of Sedgwick County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS:

SECTION 1. That it is the declared policy of the County to conserve and protect and encourage the development and improvement of farmland for the production of food and other agricultural products. The County finds that agricultural activities, conducted on farmland in areas into which nonagricultural uses have moved, are often subjected to nuisance lawsuits, and that such suits encourage and even force the premature removal of agricultural uses, It is therefore the purpose of this Resolution to provide protection for agricultural activities conducted on farmland in the County.

SECTION 2. Agricultural activities conducted on farmland, if consistent with good agricultural practices and if established prior to surrounding nonagricultural activities, are presumed to be reasonable and do not constitute a nuisance, public or private, unless the activity has a substantial adverse effect an the public health and safety. If such agricultural activity is undertaken in conformity with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, it is presumed to be good agricultural practice and presumed to not adversely affect the public health.

Commissioners present and voting were:

BETSY GWIN
BILL HANCOCK
THOMAS G. WINTERS
CAROLYN McGINN
BEN SCIORTINO

Dated this 26th day of July, 2000.

AMES ALFORI

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

RICHARD A. EUSON

County Counselor

County Clerk

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS

THOMAS G. WINTERS Chairman Third District

CAROLYN McGINN Chair Pro Tom - Fourth District

BETSY GWIN

Commissioner - First District

BILL HANCOCK

Commissioner - Second District

BEN SCIORTINO

Commissioner - Fifth District