

March 9, 2023
House Federal and State Affairs Committee
SB 3 - Proponent Testimony

Joel Condray – Challenger Intermediate School teacher & grandson of Warren Condray

Chairman Carpenter and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the tremendous honor of being here with you today. My students and I have had a fantastic experience learning about the state's legislative process throughout this project.

I was very lucky to grow up hearing about the dinosaur found on our family farm in North Central Kansas and I spent a lot of my childhood reliving the events of this incredible discovery.

To tell you a little bit about my legendary grandfather; Warren Condray lived a full & exciting life until the age of 97. He always enjoyed spending his time with family and telling stories to his grandchildren. A life-long farmer and rancher here in rural Kansas, he defined hard work and farming innovation; being one of the first in North Central Kansas to terrace his fields and grow Conservation Reserve Program grass, better known as CRP. He was also always very knowledgeable about surrounding nature, always being able to identify different species of wildlife that he encountered. I often describe him as this - a Ford truck drivin', ice cream lovin', tough as nails, world famous dinosaur hunter and cookie monster.

In closing, I am very proud to have my principal and students with me today, both sharing in the remarkable experience and also testifying before you. On behalf of everyone involved, I want to thank Senator Bowers, Senator Kerschen and all of you for giving us the amazing opportunity to speak before you today!