

**AMERICAN
SOCIETY OF
APPRAISERS**



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March 21, 2000

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Edwin W. Baker
Executive Vice President
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Mr. Ben Henson, Executive Director
Appraisal Subcommittee
2000 K Street NW - Ste. 310
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Henson:

A member of the American Society of Appraisers sent me the enclosed copy of Kansas State 2000 House Bill 2715. The next to last sentence of this bill states:

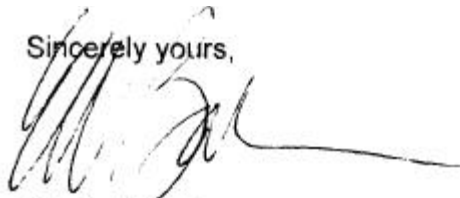
The assistant director of property valuation for use value appraisal of land devoted to agricultural use shall be a **member in good standing of the Appraisal Institute**, meet the requirements of, and maintain the **designation of MAI**, and have extensive experience in use value appraisal of land devoted to agricultural use.

These requirements discriminate against members of the American Society of Appraisers as well as other appraisal organizations, and also exclude appraisers who do not belong to an appraisal organization. Furthermore I believe this may be a violation of Section 1122(c), the Prohibition Against Discrimination section of the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act (FIRREA) of 1989.

The enclosed letter the Appraisal Subcommittee sent in 1991 to insured banks and savings associations took a strong stand on the issue of discrimination against real estate appraisers based on membership or lack of membership in an organization. I assume this is still the policy of the federal agencies that serve on the Subcommittee.

I request that the Appraisal Subcommittee inform both the Kansas State Senate Assessment and Taxation Committee and Revisor of Statutes of the State of Kansas that the requirements for an MAI designated appraiser and membership in the Appraisal Institute be deleted from the bill as it may be counter to federal legislation. Also that House Bill 2715 be reviewed and modified to include all qualified appraisers for the position of assistant director who have experience in use value appraisal of land devoted to agricultural use.

Sincerely yours,



Edwin W. Baker

Enclosures

cc: Henri LeMoyne, ARA, President
American Society of Farm Managers and
Rural Appraisers