



Office of Sheriff, Harvey County, Kansas

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Kansas Legislature
Ref: "Uncork Kansas"

I write this letter for two concerns; one as a concerned citizen for desire to see the entrepreneurial spirit of Kansan's continue and thrive and second as a Law Enforcement Officer striving to uphold Kansas laws and keeping the people I serve safe.

Time and time again I have watched as the large corporate businesses and those with money sweep away those individuals who create a business of their own through their hard work and investments. The corporate businesses want the profits of the entrepreneurial individuals at the cost of eliminating those hard worked for businesses.

As a Law Enforcement with over 25 years working experience and as the current Sheriff of Harvey County, I see a huge void of responsible enforcement should this bill pass and allow grocery stores and convenience stores selling alcohol. It won't take a "rocket scientist" from our underage youth to figure out how to obtain alcohol more readily through these new outlets than they had been able to through a more regulated point of distribution, the local liquor store.

As Governor Brownback spoke so highly about family values in his State of the State address, I'm sure he would not want to see more alcohol obtained by underage youth by means of grocery stores and convenience stores creating additional criminal issues, safety issues and family divisions.

Please do not be persuaded by corporate greed and power. Allow the entrepreneurial spirit of Kansans to grow and flourish.

Cordially

T. Walton
Harvey County Sheriff