

Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association Testimony Supporting HB 2576 House Commerce Committee Thursday February 11, 2016

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, the Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association supports HB 2576 because it is a reasonable step to allow Kansans to continue managing their businesses under statewide uniform rules.

The Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association represents members who employ over 137,000 Kansans. We are one of the primary tax collectors for the state, collecting annually more than \$424 million as an industry. Most of our members have multiple employees and protecting the ability to schedule their time in an orderly fashion is critical to their success.

HB 2576 simply adds one additional category to the list of business practices state lawmakers wish to have regulated in a statewide, uniform manner. Currently there is no local government seeking to restrict the private sectors scheduling in Kansas, but there are at least 6 cities across the nation with pending legislation. The proposals have ranged from restricting any change in a work schedule for two to three weeks in advance to requiring a minimum number of guaranteed hours.

Running a small restaurant is complicated and being able to manage schedules is critical. We know when we have a stable workforce our product is delivered more efficiently which in turn provides a better customer experience. It is in our best interest to manage our schedules in a thoughtful manner taking into consideration the various needs of our employees. This legislation provides us with that continued ability to work under a statewide uniform law. We ask for your support of this legislation