



Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association

Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 233

March 24, 2015

On behalf of the Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on SB 233. The KRHA stands in strong opposition of this legislation.

The Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association represents members who employ over 137,000 Kansans. We are one of the primary tax collectors for the state, collecting more than \$424 million as an industry. Increasing the taxes on our members costs is exactly the opposite approach Kansas should be taking at this time.

Kansas restaurants pay the enforcement tax on beer purchased through wholesalers also will pay increased costs on wine and spirits as they get passed on. Raising the enforcement tax 50% from 8 to 12 percent is unnecessary because it singles out one of the most innovative and productive industries in Kansas.

A recent economic study produced by Dunham and Associates indicates that if this tax is passed, over 1,300 Kansans will lose their jobs in the alcohol and service industry. We understand Kansas is looking for revenue, but lets not forget about the hard working Kansans who will be impacted by singling out the restaurant industry.

The Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association stands firmly opposed to this bad idea.

Sincerely,

Scott Schneider, J.D.