

March 31, 2015

To Chairman Ostmeyer and Honorable Members of the Committee:

This letter concerns SB 298. Grocery stores, liquor stores, and convenience stores ... we're all in the same boat trying to survive and compete in an ever changing market.

I've managed Mr. K's Food Town in Plainville, Kan., for 26 years. The only constant in our business has been change. We're constantly evolving to better compete and attract shoppers so we can remain a viable business in the Plainville region.

My goal is always to take better care of my employees. Any gains we achieve enable me to improve our business and reward those who devote their time to it.

Seeing this bill passed would give my store the chance to sell a product our customers tell us they want the opportunity to buy. We add and eliminate products frequently; these decisions are often based primarily on their feedback. That I can't determine for our store what legal adult beverages we'll offer because of government prohibitions is a disservice to the free market principles that have allowed grocery stores to operate in the improved fashion they do today and fails to acknowledge the shopping expectations of the Kansas people.

I like that SB 298 gives liquor stores an opportunity to transition. This is an important and fair measure. I urge this body to pass Uncork Kansas legislation because it offers liquor stores a soft landing in a changing market, while finally granting convenience and grocery stores the chance to sell items customers have long advocated to see on our shelves.

Thank you for your service to our state.

Sincerely,

Kim Rounsley
Mr. K's Food Town
Plainville, Kansas