



Courtland, KS

March 5th, 2024

SB 511

Proponent

Luke Mahin

Co-Owner Irrigation Ales

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill No. 511, which is currently under consideration by the Kansas Senate. As a co-owner of Irrigation Ales and an active member of the brewing community, I believe that SB 511 presents a crucial opportunity to modernize our state's beer laws and support local microbreweries like ours.

Irrigation Ales is a two-year old brewery located in Courtland, KS population 294 in Republic County. In that span we have hosted visitors from 45 states and 7 countries so far and most often serve people within 3 hours of North Central Kansas and South Central Nebraska in our taproom or with our to-go beer options. We do not currently distribute due to our brewhouse's limited efficiency of 3-5 barrels using retrofitted dairy tanks and a cold room made from a converted reefer trailer.

As the former Republic County Economic Development director for eight years I understand sustainable growth means maintaining relationships with local business and community partners. Being based in an agricultural community we support local producers and their products in our beers. Utilizing produce grown by Courtland's Depot Market with blackberries, raspberries, watermelon, pumpkins, and even cucumber. We are also incorporating local malt from the Kansas Malt Company in Wisley, KS and hops from the Kansas Hop Company in Ottawa, KS.

By selling directly to retailers like Northside Pizza in Belleville other restaurants and events we would continue to grow our brand awareness in NCK as well as continue to invest in local agriculture producers of Kansas.



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I urge you to give serious consideration to SB 511 and support its passage through the legislative process. By modernizing our beer laws and empowering microbreweries to sell directly to consumers, we can unleash the full potential of Kansas's craft beer industry and contribute to the prosperity of our communities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I am available to provide written testimony in support of SB 511 at the upcoming hearing. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information or clarification.

Sincerely,

Luke Mahin
Co-owner, Irrigation Ales

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luke Mahin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.