



## City of Baldwin City

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February 28, 2012

Chairman Brunk and Members of the Federal and State Affairs Committee  
State Capitol  
300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairman Brunk:

This letter shall serve as an enthusiastic letter of support of HB 2689 on behalf of the City of Baldwin City. As the City Administrator, I have been afforded the opportunity to examine this possible business relocation to our City and I can unequivocally support its positive impact on our community.

This type of business dovetails perfectly with our tourism and economic development efforts in promoting Baldwin City. It will help local businesses by encouraging overnight stays and will have a positive impact in sales tax revenues that support our general operations. It does not compete with current businesses as it is a wholly unique dining experience that brings people from hundreds of miles away to discover our City. In addition, it will create local jobs and foster the development of the arts in our community with its theatrical performances.

However, as part of this unique dining experience, this business must have the ability to obtain a liquor license. Elkhorn Valley Railcar Corporation will make a fine addition to the City of Baldwin City and will provide a unique tourist experience to many surrounding Kansas residents. The ability to obtain a liquor license is crucial to this business model and the customers that are attracted to this type of event will demand that element of service. It is essential to the economic viability of this project.

For those and many other reasons, I strongly encourage you to support the passage of a liquor license for rail cars with HB 2689.

Sincerely,

  
Chris Lowe,  
City Administrator

House Federal & State Affairs

Date: 3-05-12

Attachment # 26