

Mr. Chairman Pete Brungardt,
Members of the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee
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Do you like to get something for FREE? Most of us do. When I go to the grocery store and a sweet person is handing out samples, I usually take one. Often, after sampling, I am persuaded to buy the product.

Sampling 1/4 of a cookie probably is not even going to register on the calorie chart. However, sampling of various alcoholic beverages is a different ball game. According to the handout I gave you, in bold print are the words:

IMPAIRMENT BEGINS WITH YOUR FIRST DRINK.

What we don't need in Kansas are more impaired drivers. Our alcohol related traffic deaths for 2010 in Kansas were 168. Remember the cantaloupe scare last summer. People were afraid to eat cantaloupe. I think there were maybe three deaths statewide. – Compare that to 168! Kansas rated #47 out of 51 (counting the District of Columbia) states for having the most percentage of alcohol related deaths. Headlines from NE Kansas tell the sad statistics. Impaired drivers wishing they could undo the terrible harm they have created for both the victims and themselves.

In the bill being proposed, how many samples are allowed? Who is going to count? If you have 5 customers in the store at once, who is going to keep track? Who is checking on the underage drinker? How many clerks is it going to take to keep this accounting?

No, handing out liquor samples, is not like handing out cookie samples. This will only lead to more consumption of this killer product. If it would not lead to more consumption, why would the liquor stores promote this? This is a bad bill – Please vote "NO" on Senate Bill #269. Thank you.