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Nick Jordan, Secretary Doug Jorgensen, Director Sam Brownback, Governor

Senate Federal & State Affairs Committee SB 277

Testimony of
Doug Jorgensen
Director, Alcoholic Beverage Control

February 8, 2012

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on SB 277.

ABC does not oppose or support the passage of SB 277. However, if the committee votes favorably on the passage of the bill, we would ask the committee to amend the bill to conform with statutes governing the operations of farm wineries and microbreweries, which are similar operations to the kind contemplated by this bill. ABC sees no reason for disparate treatment between the three types of operations.

(1) Farm wineries and microbreweries may legally serve free samples of their manufactured product off the licensed premises at special events monitored and regulated by the division of alcoholic beverage control. This bill does not currently allow microdistilleries to do so. ABC recommends new section 1, subsection (a)(4) be amended as follows:

The serving free of charge on the licensed premises and at special events monitored and regulated by the division of alcoholic beverage control, of samples of spirits manufactured by the licensee, if the premises are located in a county where the sale of alcoholic liquor is permitted by law in licensed drinking establishments;

- (2) New section 1 authorizes a microdistillery to manufacture not more than 50,000 gallons of spirits in a license year. The term of the license would actually be two years, so ABC requests New section 1, subsection (a)(1) be amended to either 50,000 gallons during a calendar year, or 100,000 gallons during the license term.
- (3) ABC proposes two changes to section 2 of the bill, which amends the definition section, K.S.A. 41-102:
 - (a) The definition of "retailer" should be amended to provide that retailer does not include a microbrewery, farm winery, or microdistillery; and