

Strong City Grocery

322 Cottonwood Street, Strong City, KS 66864

March 7, 2013

Dear Chairman Kleeb and Honorable Members of the Commerce Committee,

For twenty-five years I have owned and operated Strong City Grocery in Strong City, a community of 600 people in a county of just 3,000. I also serve as the President of our school district's Board of Education. I'm deeply invested here and strongly committed to not only our survival, but our vibrancy as a community.

We're a small place, trying to survive as both a school district and community. We have some staple businesses, but we need all the help we can get. In that regard, HB 2206 legislation could be a true asset to my store's ability to maintain profitability.

I believe as legislators you have a responsibility - and were elected for the purpose of - eliminating regulations that prevent us from competing in the marketplace and allow retailers to diversify so the people have as many choices as they can.

My small grocery store supplies two local restaurants with food. The Ad Astra restaurant sells Strong City Brats, homemade in our store. We're proud of what we're able to offer our community and grateful that the county has two restaurants that not only our residents enjoy patronizing but others come to as a destination dining spot.

You can help ensure the vitality of Strong City by passing HB 2206 legislation. It's a bill that's good for small grocery stores. As an operator for a quarter of a century, I can say without hesitancy this bill is long overdue and eagerly anticipated.

Thank you for your consideration.



Kay Lauer
Owner