

OPPOSITION TESTIMONY ON HB 2206

HOUSE COMMERCE, LABOR & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Lance and Jennifer Vogel

Rogers Wholesale Liquor

Black's Liquor, LLC

Kansas City, Kansas (Wyandotte County)

Chairman Kleeb and Members of the Committee:

My husband and I are owners of two liquor stores and a convenience store in Kansas City, Kansas.

The income generated by our business is spent with local banks, accountants, repair services, lawyers, electricians, contractors and charities. We have two children, one attends Kansas State University and the other The University of Kansas. We are third generation owners of Rogers Liquor and our customer relationship and partnership with the state of Kansas goes back over 50 years.

The loans that we owe cover our businesses, property and buildings. HB2206 puts our lifetime investments at a huge risk as well as the jobs of 25 employees that depend on their positions with us for their sole and supplemental income. We view our staff as family and we take good care of them.

A by-product of HB2206, if passed, would be that the hundreds of school aged children that currently shop at our convenience store would now purchase their pop, chips, gum and other snacks in our liquor store. We know that a fifth of vodka in the wrong hands can and will kill, if consumed the wrong way.

We value our position in the "retail" step of the sale of adult beverages and we believe that Kansas already has it right. We are aware of the huge influx of lobbyists and money in the hard push to change the liquor laws. We ask that you stand up for Kansans and small business by voting NO ON HB2206.

Thank you for all the work that you do for the people of Kansas. It is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rogers Vogel

Rogers Wholesale Liquor and Party Shop

Black's Liquor LLC