## Commerce, Labor and Economic Development Written Testimony

February 10, 2015

Re: HB 2200

Dear Chairman Rep. Mark Hutton and Committee:

We oppose Bill HB-2200 which promotes the selling of alcohol in convenience stores because it is documented that in some cases consumption increases 37.4%. We hear that Missouri ranks  $43^{rd}$  in alcohol related deaths and Kansas ranks  $17^{th}$ . It is not our personal desire that, as a state, we should pursue the track record for MO. in this area.

When we go to Springfield, MO. and stop at Sam's Club they have their liquor display prominently positioned in the middle of the store. If accompanied by our grandchildren we have to walk around the outside perimeter of the store to shop. At Sam's Club here in Topeka one must, exit the Club and go next door, in order to purchase liquor. This is a better arrangement.

If we want to purchase liquor we can go up the street to  $27^{th}$  and California to purchase at a locally owned store that has been there for 27 years.

Thank You,

Ronald & Navella Richey

2332 SE 22<sup>nd</sup> Terrace

Topeka, Kansas 66605-1745