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**Testimony Supporting HB 2223
House Federal and State Affairs Committee
Wednesday February 18, 2015**

Blue Moon Caterers is a leading catering company located in Wichita Kansas, serving the eastern 2/3 of the state. The company executes over 600 events per year including weddings, banquets, receptions, private parties, fundraisers, and a wide assortment of events where food, beverage, and service staff are required. Blue Moon also has ongoing contractual arrangements with various organizations in Wichita where we provide daily food and beverage services on an ongoing basis. Blue Moon employs roughly 20 full time staff, and 60 part time staff personnel.

As part of our work, we offer alcoholic beverage services to our clients, and roughly 20% of our events require these. We have a Caterers license which allows us to sell alcoholic beverages anywhere in the state of Kansas (except on a licensed premise). When we plan to do this, there are several steps we must take that are required under current law: First, we fill out an ABC-826 form with all the names, dates, times, and location of the event, including drawing a map of the location...then submit it to the ABC for approval. This has a minimum 10 day advance requirement. Any forms filed late will generate a citation, with fines of up to \$1000. Once approved, we then send this form, along with a copy of the catering contract, and a sheet detailing the particulars of the event, including names of our staff, and what types of alcohol we are serving, along with a copy of our Caterers license to the prevailing police authority for the location of the event. If it's in a city, it goes to the police. If it's outside city limits, it goes to the sheriff. We are then required to post all these forms prominently on the exterior wall of the event location immediately next to the primary entrance. As a side note, because of the 10 day filing requirement, we file forms on many short notice events before their requirements are known, just in case they will need alcoholic beverage service.

This is a significant administrative burden...costing our company significant amounts of time to fill out duplicate forms, which in our opinion, provides no real benefit to anyone. In 12 years of operating and filing these forms, we have had law enforcement show up at an event zero times...so we believe their interest in having this information is minimal. In the case of outlying communities, we have received many calls from the police or sheriff's office wanting to know what all this paperwork is for. In 12 years of operating, we have never had violence of any sort at an event. Yes, we've had many intoxicated guests, but to date, there has never been a particularly negative result from this. This regulation is costing the taxpayers too because of the work required of administrative and enforcement personnel at the ABC.

We believe it is in the best interest of the citizens, taxpayers (and of course all the licensed caterers in the state) to get rid of this regulation.

Respectfully,

Bill Rowe
Proprietor
Blue Moon Caterers