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REVISOR of STATUTES

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MEMORANDUM

To: Chairman Brunk
Members of the House Committee on Federal and State Affairs

From: Jason B. Long, Senior Assistant Revisor

Date: February 18, 2015

Subject: HB 2331 – Consumption of alcoholic liquor on public property at a catered event.

House Bill No. 2331 would authorize the consumption of alcoholic liquor on public property at catered events. Under current law, K.S.A. 41-719 generally prohibits consumption of alcoholic liquor on public property, but provides a number of exceptions to this general rule. One such exception is to allow such consumption at a special event where a temporary permit has been issued. A special event is an event that has been approved by local government as an event opened to the public where alcoholic beverages may be sold and served by a temporary permit holder. This exception does not apply to events that are held on public property, but are not “special events,” and it does not apply when the alcoholic beverages are served by a licensed caterer unless that caterer has also obtained a temporary permit.

HB 2331 would provide an exception for catered events held on public property. The exception would apply to those catered events where the licensed caterer has properly notified the appropriate authorities pursuant to K.S.A. 41-2643, which requires 10-day notice prior to the catered event. Consumption of alcohol would be limited to the boundaries of the catered event. And all other restrictions imposed by K.S.A. 41-719 will apply.

If enacted these amendments would become effective on July 1, 2015.