

**Testimony Re: HB 2306
House Taxation Committee
Presented by Janez Lomshek
on behalf of
Talk of the Town Restaurants
February 18, 2015**

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

My name is Janez Lomshek, I am a partner in Smith & Lomshek Holdings dba Talk of the Town in Leawood KS and Overland Park KS. I am submitting testimony in opposition of HB 2306.

The restaurant business is one of the most competitive industries in Kansas. We work very hard to innovate and create an environment where people want to come and enjoy themselves. One of my restaurants is a mile from the Missouri border. Increasing my input costs for alcohol will be detrimental to my business. The enforcement tax increase of 50%, from 8 to 12 percent will be passed on to me and I will have to pass it along to the customer.

Cross-border competition is a real thing in Johnson County. Kansas has always done well measuring the costs of its tax structure to ensure our communities are not at a cross-border disadvantage. I would encourage you to oppose this alcohol tax enforcement increase because it targets my industry specifically and it is a broadly just plain bad policy.

Thank you for allowing me to visit with you! I kindly ask for you to oppose raising the alcohol tax.

Sincerely,

Janez Lomshek
Partner

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