



February 13, 2017

Dear Chairman Mason and Committee Members,

The origin of 7-Eleven dates back to 1927 when Jefferson Green, called “Uncle Johnny” by most, realized he could make life a little easier on his customers by selling everyday staples from the dock of a local icehouse in Dallas, Texas. It was the start of the world’s first convenience store and what is today known as 7-Eleven.

We started small, like every business does, but we grew over time because we were responsive to customer needs and found ways to answer their demands. Our name was selected to reflect our hours – 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., but in 1963, we expanded our hours to 24/7 at our location near the University of Texas campus.

Today, 24/7 convenience stores are the norm. We serve customers on long road trips that need a restroom break and soda to keep them awake on the drive, are the gathering spot for retired community members who want a cup of coffee and conversation, and in many areas, are the only source of food within walking distance of neighborhoods underserved by grocery access. In fact, we’ve been providing fresh foods at our locations since the 1990’s and our fresh products are growing in number on the shelf because of customer request.

Our success is a result of being responsive to our customers. That’s why we’re asking you to support HB 2282. It’s key to helping ensure we can continue to meet the demands of our customers. They want the option to buy beer and wine in our stores. It’s our mission to deliver what the customers want, when and where they want it, but we can’t do it without your help.

7-Eleven operates in both Oklahoma and Colorado, two states that recently passed legislation that will no longer require they sell 3.2% beer after 2018. This leaves only three states still selling this product: Utah, Minnesota, and Kansas. We recognize this sharp decline in market share for beer manufacturers will impact product availability. It’s imperative that we act now to ensure no disruption in the marketplace and that we protect the rights of Kansans who desire to buy beer in their local c-store. We can’t risk not having products on the shelves for them to purchase.



The bill before you today is a solution we are pleased to support. Grocery and c-stores could sell beer and wine while liquor stores continue their exclusivity in the spirits market. Moreover, they'll be able to sell non-alcoholic items and own more than one license. This is a great way to transition the industry as it meets the needs of consumers while giving liquor stores new opportunities to develop and grow their businesses.

On behalf of 7-Eleven and our 19 Kansas locations, we respectfully request you favorably pass HB 2282 out of committee and open the marketplace for convenience and grocery stores to sell legal, adult beverages to our customers who want the option to buy these products in our 19 Kansas locations.

Sincerely,

All Franchises of 7-Eleven, Inc. doing business in Kansas