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Kristey S. Williams
Representative, 77th District

Jan. 23, 2018

To: House Commerce Committee

From: Representative Kristey Williams

Re: Support of HB 2482 – An Act Concerning Alcoholic Beverages Relating to the Hours of Sale of Alcohol

Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for taking time to consider updating an existing statute that relates to the period of time alcohol may be served. Currently, under Kansas law, caterers may serve alcoholic beverages from the time of 6 AM to 2 AM, while brick and mortar restaurants and bars are only allowed to serve alcohol between 9 AM and 2 AM. It is my hope we will create uniformity in the law by allowing the morning hour for alcohol consumption to be changed to 6 AM rather than 9 AM.

We live in a 24-hour, global society with travelers visiting our communities from around the world and residents working diverse hours of the day and night. Within this ever-changing global society, Kansas's restaurant industry is experiencing recent growth in breakfast/brunch establishments. These businesses have adapted to the changing needs of their customers by extending their hours of operations and making other changes that best suit the current market demand. With the restaurant industry's natural evolution comes a request to serve alcoholic drinks at an earlier time – 6 AM.

This bill provides greater freedom to our small businesses and reduces regulatory burden. Though it may appear a small matter, it is of importance to those business owners carving out their best business practices in the competitive restaurant market. I would ask that you support their request and allow them to manage their businesses with the least amount of unnecessary regulatory interference.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support for HB 2482.

Sincerely,

Rep. Kristey Williams