



WRITTEN REMARKS

TO: The Honorable Les Mason, Chair
And Members of the House Commerce, Labor & Economic Development Committee

FROM: Whitney Damron
On behalf of the Kansas Association for Responsible Liquor Laws, Inc.

RE: HB 2502 – An Act relating to alcoholic beverages.

DATE: January 29, 2018

Chairman Mason and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Kansas Association for Responsible Liquor Laws, Inc. (KARLL), we respectfully submit these written remarks to go on the record in support of HB 2502, the “trailer bill” to SB 13 from the 2017 session which made changes to the sale of cereal malt beverage products and strong beer containing up to 6% alcohol by volume.

As the Legislature considered SB 13 last session, the proponents were aware of a handful of issues that should be considered in a subsequent bill. Given the fact that SB 13 did implement until April 1, 2019, we had the interim to meet and craft a trailer bill and the 2018 session to seek its passage and the proponents committed to work with those who expressed concerns with SB 13 as adopted.

During the interim, ABC hosted several meetings with all of the stakeholders invited to discuss possible amendments to SB 13. The bill before you today is the result of those discussions and I believe most, if not all of the parties involved in the effort to pass SB 13 last year support HB 2502, including my client.

Specifically, we believe the tax question – whether to assess a the 8% enforcement tax on beer over CMB in alcohol content up to 6% or levy state and local sales taxes was a question for cities to decide and they have opted for application of state and local sales taxes as contained in HB 2502. We support that concept.

We support giving the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control authority to enforce state liquor laws at CMB establishments.

We also support clarification of the impact report required under SB 13 that ABC is required to submit to the Legislature during the session of the tenth anniversary of this Act (2029) shall be “based on information available to the director.”

On behalf of KARLL, we thank you for your consideration of this legislation and request your support.

WBD