

Senate Taxation Committee
Presented by Michael Garozzo
On behalf of
Garozzo's Ristorante & Greater Kansas City Restaurant Association
2.13.17

Madame Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Michael Garozzo I am the owner/operator Garozzo's Ristorante. I am also the GKCRA President. I am submitting testimony in opposition of SB 175, which would raise the liquor enforcement tax from 8% to 16%.

I have Restaurants on both sides of the State Line. The Kansas location is already at a big disadvantage in terms of taxes and liquor costs. (My Overland Park location is a short 5-10 minute drive from Missouri.)

In Missouri we buy liquor directly from the distributor. We don't pay tax on the liquor until we sell it and we don't have to buy it from a liquor store at a 2-3% upcharge. This additional 8% increase would surely be passed on to the operator and then the consumer it would make it impossible to not raise our prices and push our customers to the Missouri side of State Line where they can get their libation at much cheaper price.

Thank you for allowing me to visit you. I kindly ask that you oppose raising the liquor enforcement tax.

Sincerely,

Michael Garozzo