

Testimony in Support of HB 2596
House Federal and State Affairs Committee
Tuesday, February 19, 2020
Scott Schneider

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Scott Schneider and I am here on behalf of the Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association. We support the passage of HB 2596.

As a reminder, the Anti-Saloon League had significant power at the turn of the century. They helped pass the 18th Amendment to the United States Constitution.

The Americans Against Prohibition Association (AAPA) led an effort to repeal prohibition and on December 5, 1933 Congress ratified the 21st Amendment repealing prohibition. To date, while the 21st amendment has been ratified, Kansas has taken no action on the 21st amendment.

HB 2596 allows a manufacturer to own a drinking establishment license within 1.2 miles of its manufacturing location. Currently only two types of licensees are allowed to both produce and provide retail sales in Kansas: microbrewery and farm wineries.

The 21st Amendment gave States' significant, if not nearly unilateral control over their alcohol laws and how sales within that industry occur. The alcohol industry is an exciting and evolving marketplace and allowing a state-owned company to also make sales with a drinking establishment near their facility seem reasonable to the KRHA.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2596.

