



Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association

Proponent Testimony HB 2502

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The Kansas Restaurant & Hospitality Association supports HB 2502 because it would allow licensed drinking establishments to obtain their alcohol through a broader and more competitive federally licensed wholesalers structure. While some rural Kansas communities are growing others are shrinking. These shifts in more sparsely populated areas can cause increased market uncertainty. HB 2502 seeks to soften these disruptions.

Currently, drinking establishments are allowed to purchase their beer from a beer distributor but are required to purchase their wine and liquor from a licensed retailer. This space in the market becomes more complicated when populations shift downward, or retailers go out of business. KRHA has heard from several western Kansas restaurants that they are not able to purchase more desirable wines and liquor because their liquor stores do not choose to carry the extra inventory.

HB 2502 allows our Alcohol Control Act to have a small degree of additional flexibility. Allowing a drinking establishment to purchase their alcohol beyond their county line would clear up any confusion in the law and allow them to have additional access to products they want when they want them.

KRHA stands in support to HB 2502.