



**ORAL TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2446**  
**House Federal and State Affairs**  
**Larrie Ann Brown**  
**Wednesday March 15, 2023**  
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Mister Chair and members of the committee. I am Larrie Ann Brown, Kansas Legislative Counsel for Wine Institute.

Wine Institute is a trade association comprised of roughly 1,000 California wineries and affiliated businesses. We are the only U.S. organization advocating for wine at the state, federal, and international levels. Our mission is to initiate and advocate public policy that enhances the ability to responsibly produce, promote, and enjoy wine. On behalf of Wine Institute, I am here in support of HB 2446.

Wine Institute is seeing state legislatures around the nation place an incredible burden on manufacturers. These types of laws are typically called “extended producer responsibility” laws, or EPR. They require manufacturers of any product containing plastic, glass, aluminum, paper, cardboard, etc., in their packaging or containers to pay a fee – an unknown fee – on every container or package they produce. Most recently in Colorado, the state legislature passed a law that would require such fee in order to pay for the entire state’s recycling program. Colorado has no idea how much this will cost and thus no idea how much the fee would be on each producer. We do not want to see this happen in Kansas.

HB 2446 is a step in the right direction as it prohibits local jurisdictions from creating such EPR program. Thus, we support the Committee’s bill.

However, we would request a couple of clarifications:

1. In order to ensure that taxes disguised as “fees” are not placed on auxiliary containers we request on page 1, line 26, after the word “taxes,” add the phrase, “imposes a charge or fee upon”
2. To avoid a municipality from prohibiting glass containers altogether: we suggest on page 2, line 1, strike the word “within” and replaces with “on property owned or maintained by”

Thank you for your time.