



**House Federal and State Affairs Committee
Written Testimony Presented by Derek Hein on behalf of
Kansas Beverage Association
Support for HB 2446
March 14, 2023**

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

My name is Derek Hein, and I serve as Executive Director for the Kansas Beverage Association (KBA). The KBA is the state trade association for non-alcoholic beverage bottling companies operating in Kansas. Products manufactured and distributed by members of the KBA include soft drinks, bottled waters, isotonic drinks, juice, juice drinks, sports drinks, dairy-based beverages, teas, and other beverages. We are proud to be a part of the fabric of our great state.

HB 2446 prohibits cities and counties from regulating auxiliary containers. Passage of this law will provide for a consistent and uniform standard for consumers and businesses across the state.

The Kansas Beverage Association supports passage of HB 2446. Local government restrictions upon products of any nature constitute restraints on trade and place undue burdens on distributors of such products. Individual municipalities creating different rules for any products can cause disruptions in production, retail ordering, and distribution.

The members of KBA make American products, with American workers, in America's hometowns. **More than 3,206 jobs are provided by Kansas' beverage industry.** Kansas' beverage companies manufacture and distribute some of the most popular nonalcoholic beverages in the world.

Regarding plastic products, the beverage industry is very proud that our bottles are 100% recyclable, including the cap. The American Beverage Association, in conjunction with the World Wildlife Fund, the Recycling Partnership, and Closed Loop Partners, has launched Every Bottle Back. This is a national effort to get every bottle that we produce back, so that it can be recycled and made into a new bottle. Our bottles are not single use; they are made to be remade.

I encourage members of the committee to visit EveryBottleBack.org and learn how our industry is working towards environmental sustainability in a very positive way.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.