

KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF BEVERAGE RETAILERS

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March 15, 2017

House Federal and State Affairs Committee – Re: HB 2366

Chairman Barker and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today regarding amendments to the keg registration statutes.

KABR is not opposed to the amendments proposed in HB 2366. We are also not opposed to the amendment recommended by Tuck Duncan. We respectfully request an opportunity to review any other proposed amendments, as changes could amend our neutral status.

The 2002 compromise that created the keg registration act involved the collaboration of proponents led by Senator Jim Barnett of Emporia, the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, law enforcement, and the retailers who would be charged with the responsibilities of tracking their customer's purchases of kegs. Keg registration failed to pass for several sessions, so the compromise was carefully balanced.

The goal at the time was to track down and charge adults who would provide kegs of alcohol to young people for house parties or pasture parties. The compromise sought to balance this public safety objective with the need to maintain reasonable privacy protections for individuals who purchase alcohol.

While licensed liquor retailers are accustomed to the responsibilities of selling their products safely and legally to adults, the keg registration act takes that one step further – requiring retailers to gather, hold and provide customer's personal information to law enforcement without a warrant. The resulting proposal was supported by all parties.

It would be appropriate for the committee to review the impact of the keg registration act this year, 15 years after implementation. At the time of the agreement, the parties agreed that the outcomes of the legislation should be measured and reported. While we know that retailers are cited from time to time over the years for errors in recordkeeping, we do not know if the Act is achieving its public safety objectives.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Campbell, Executive Director
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