

BLACK JACKS LIQUOR

307 S 2nd Ave, Dodge City, KS 67801

Written Testimony to Oppose SB 253

March 10, 2023

Dear Chairman Thompson and Committee,

My name is Monica Tieben and I am the owner of Blackjacks Liquor in Dodge City Kansas. I am speaking to you today to ask you to oppose SB 253. I am also a member of the Board of Directors of the Kansas Association of Beverage Retailers.

The Kansas liquor market has undergone multiple big changes in the past four years. The 2019 Beer Law puts me directly into competition with Walmart and convenience stores for sales of beer up to 6%. The changes to bar and restaurant laws puts me into competition for sales of alcohol out the door.

I hope you are aware that these changes have a major effect on smaller communities and western Kansas especially. Rural liquor stores have been closing.

Many of the liquor store owners who live and work in the western areas of the state are discouraged that the Legislature would consider this kind of legislation designed to push more sales to online. How will you educate customers what online delivery is legal and what isn't? Our communities are already feeling the harm of online purchasing habits for most consumer goods. How much more of the consumer dollar needs to go to Walmart and Amazon?

It is even more frustrating to see the many articles about how alcohol delivery is barely regulated and leads to more underage purchasing while my license requires strict oversight and accountability.

Thank you for reading my comments. I am happy to answer questions if you would like to reach out. If any of you come to Dodge City, please come by Blackjacks. We'd love to serve you!

Monica Tieben
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