

February 21, 2012

Dear Members of the Senate Tax Committee:

I am a business owner in Wichita, Kansas. I know firsthand the importance for Kansas to require all online-only retailers to start collecting sales tax on purchases.

The unfair advantage that out-of-state online only companies enjoy is an insult to all the small business owners with "bricks-and-mortar" stores in Kansas. The bottom line is that this is antibusiness and not good for the growth of our economy. Everyone should have to play by the same rules. If one store has to collect sales tax in a state then every retailer that does business in that state should have to collect sales tax as well.

Every day I have customers come into my store, ask for my expertise, and then take the information and purchase the product online so they can "save" in sales tax. This is not just happening to me but it is happening to business owners throughout the state of Kansas.

I am like all other "bricks-and-mortar" small businesses in this state and community that contribute to our economic growth. Not only do we provide jobs for local residents but we also contribute to local community organizations, and collect sales tax according to the outdated laws that do not apply to on-line businesses doing business in our state.

It is time for a change. My hope is that our legislators will pass e-fairness legislation and give our businesses the relief and level playing field we deserve now.

Sincerely Yours,

Sarah Bagby Owner