



**Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association
Supporting Testimony
Senate Bill 493
Scott J. Schneider J.D.
Thursday, February 17, 2022**

Chair and members of the committee, the Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association support Senate Bill 493. We have confidence our members know best how to balance their customer's environmental expectations with those same customer's desires to be served food in clean, cost effective methods.

I have included a few slides that are two years old and possibly a bit dated, however, the numbers provide an important perspective on the various proposals across the United States. For example, there were 318 separate legislative proposals seeking to tell business owners how best to operate. The restaurant industry has some of the lowest margin business models and these types of changes can have a meaningful impact on the bottom line.

The KRHA also has members who are proactively making company level commitments to reduce waste and increase recycling. In fact, in 2020, Starbucks and McDonalds have joined to develop recyclable/compostable cups and more than 450 companies have signed on to the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment.¹ These decisions to change paper/plastic use, distribution partners, and business processes should be left with those who have taken the financial risk –the business owners.

If the only way for businesses in the State of Kansas can have a predictable, scalable, and cost effective business model is to pass a state-level preemption, then we support that action.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

¹ https://www.newplasticseconomy.org/assets/doc/Global-Commitment-Signatories_Feb-2020.pdf

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