

KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF BEVERAGE RETAILERS



Testimony presented to Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee
January 22, 2012

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony regarding SB 7, including amendments to the Liquor Control Act.

In 2012, the Kansas Association of Beverage Retailers was neutral on the question of changing Kansas statutes to allow tastings of strong beer, wine and spirits on the premises of a retail liquor store. The promotion of in store liquor tasting was not a priority for our organization, especially in the context of the big box / grocery store / convenience store legislation that was and is on our doorstep yet again.

We did work with the Division of ABC and others to promote a bill that would be simple to implement and have clear enforcement parameters. We were not aware that there would be confusion about the products to be sampled on the licensed premises.

KABR supports the changes to the Liquor Control Act that will make the new sections of the statute supplemental to the Liquor Control Act and clarify the legal manner in which products may be mixed and sampled on the premises.

KABR also supports legislation to expedite the handling of citations by the Division of ABC. Timely notification is important for licensees in order to be able to quickly address problems within the licensed business. The Division has been operating with minimal staff for a number of years, and this has made it difficult for the agency to be able to complete all of the duties of the agency in a timely manner. Any deadlines for prosecuting citations should be flexible to allow for extensions when requested.

Please see attached our testimony from 2012 regarding timely enforcement.

KABR urges the Kansas Legislature to review current funding and staffing levels of the agency.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

For more information, contact KABR:
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