

**Testimony Re: HB 2550**  
**House Federal and State Affairs Committee**  
**Presented by Janez Lomshek**  
**on behalf of**  
**Talk of the Town Restaurants**  
**February 6, 2012**

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

My name is Janez Lomshek, I am a partner in Smith & Lomshek Holdings dba Talk of the Town in Leawood KS and Overland Park KS. I am submitting testimony in support of HB 2550.

The changes to this statute would allow for liquor licensees to offer, what many refer to as Happy Hours, in Kansas restaurants and bars. Current law does not allow licensed drinking establishments to offer a drink for a price that is less than that charged for all other drinks on the same day.

The current law is bad for Kansas business as we try to compete for clientele that has the choice of visiting an establishment MO as easy as they could in KS. Every day thousands of Kansans make the decision to spend money across the state line. For a lot of those people stopping by for a happy hour drink turns into an appetizer followed by the whole family coming in for a meal. I would like to be able to offer a drink special for a short amount of time to get additional customers in the restaurant. When we sell more food and drinks this leads to additional sales tax, drink tax, and ultimately growth in my business which allows us to hire more people. Given that our KS economy is in need of a boost I think this is a win for the guest, a win for our business and a win for the State of Kansas.

I am asking for a level playing field, which will allow me the opportunity to meet my customer's needs and to provide the same services as neighboring businesses across the state line. Our Leawood store is one mile and our Overland Park location is less than 5 minutes down I-435 from the Missouri state line. Let's keep Kansas people in Kansas businesses!

I would like to ask this committee to support the passage of HB 2550.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony