

Testimony by Mark E. Cation as Proponent for HB 2689, March 5th, 2012

Franklin County Historical Society
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Chairman Brunk and members of the Federal and State Affairs Committee:

My name is Mark Cation, and I am representing two Franklin County organizations that have an interest in the dinner train project. I am the current Vice President of the Board of Trustees of the Franklin County Historical Society, which oversees our Record Center and the Old Depot Museum. I am currently heading up a project to move a 1940's Caboose to the Museum site to enhance our offerings there. We are always interested in ways to be able to tell more of the railroading story that will help our mission of preserving history, educating the community, and providing opportunities that promote tourism.

I am also a past Vice President of the Franklin County Convention & Visitors Bureau, and current volunteer. Last year we had over 5,000 visitors pass through our doors. Our mission is to develop and implement programs for the promotion of tourism, attractions, conventions and related industries for Franklin County.

The dinner train needs a liquor license to operate in Douglas/Franklin counties and that business would help both of these organizations by complimenting the offerings at the Old Depot Museum, and adding yet another tourism destination to help bring tourism dollars into Franklin County. Each entity would enhance the other, as they naturally complement each other, and services offered could easily be expanded with coordinated effort.

I encourage you to support the passage of a liquor license for railcars with HB 2689. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Cation

House Federal & State Affairs

Date: 3-05-12

Attachment # 13