



Kirk Brown ReyesGrocery

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2/13/19

Kirk Brown  
Raye's Grocery Store Owner  
119 W. Commercial  
Oberlin, KS 67749  
HB 2261 - Testimony For: House Taxation Committee

Dear Chairman Johnson and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns about the subject of lowering grocery sales tax proposed in House Bill 2261.

My name is Kirk Brown and my family has owned Reyes grocery in Oberlin Kansas for over 60 years. My business has been my life's work and I enjoy being able to serve my community. My grocery store is the only one in the entire county, not only do I enjoy this but I understand my business also provides a critical service.

The challenges of being a small business owner are too vast to go into in one letter. I am glad to hear the Taxation Committee is considering working to reduce taxes on groceries. The 6.5% tax I am required to charge makes it difficult for me to be competitive and provide quality service to my customers.

Because of Oberlin's location I often have to pay higher delivery rates. Add this to such high tax on groceries; I am out of the running to offer competitive prices. I work in the store every day, and still this is not enough to reduce costs, with the 6.5% tax. Kansas has one of the highest taxes on groceries in the country, and my business is surrounded by states without any tax.

I am thankful the committee has proposed this bill, I and my employees truly hope the committee is able to be successful and pass this bill to reduce taxes on groceries.

Sincerely,

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Reyes Grocery  
119 W. Commercial St.  
Oberlin, KS 67749

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