

To: House Federal and State Affairs

From: John Goodyear, Staff Attorney

Date: March 17, 2021

RE: Proponent Testimony on HB 2406

I want to thank Chairman Barker and the members of the Committee for affording the League of Kansas Municipalities the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2406.

The support of the League and our member cities stems from the fact that HB 2406 is drafted in a way that preserves local choice. This issue is one that provides a great example of why Home Rule is so important in our state. Particularly in this situation, local governing bodies are best situated to interact with stakeholders and make a decision that reflects the wants and needs of their community.

The topic of Sunday sales is one where cities across the state have a wide variety of opinions. We have member cities that will amend their current ordinances to allow for earlier sale, cities that will keep their Sunday sales ordinances as is, and cities that never have allowed, and likely will never allow, the Sunday sale of liquor within the city limits. HB 2406 will enable our member cities to choose the option that works best for their community.

HB 2406 was originally introduced during the 2020 legislative session but was lost when the pandemic abruptly ended our legislative year. When the bill was brought last session, the League worked with the other stakeholders to reach an agreement on language that would best preserve local choice. The Committee last year was amenable to the changes and made amendments that implemented the modified language that we worked on together. HB 2406 reflects the changes that were agreed to last year.

We are grateful to a number of other conferees for their work with us on the bill in the past. The League would ask that when the Committee makes recommendation, that you recommend HB 2406 favorably for passage.