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Testimony from Richard Risewick, Owner

Jamboree Foods, locations in Norton, Hill City, Atwood, Oakley, Hoxie, and Ness City, KS

Testimony for the Kansas House of Representatives Taxation Committee

Thank you, Chairman and Committee, for your hard work on this important piece of legislation. My grocery stores serve six communities in Kansas: Norton, Hill City, Atwood, Oakley, Hoxie and Ness City. In all five of these rural communities, we are the only grocery store in town and, as you know, grocery stores are a vital cog in the local economy. The sales tax cut on food that was passed last legislative session was a great start to this much-needed change in Kansas. Passing SB248 and eliminating state sales tax on food starting January 1, 2024, is a logical move and has been proven by our customers to be a critically needed adjustment.

As a supporter of multiple rural communities, I also appreciate the challenges that our city and county elected officials face in their fiscal responsibilities. As such, I am neutral on the decision to eliminate city and local taxes.

The forward-thinking and motivated legislature made a significant shift in the health and wealth of Kansas last year. **I urge you to please support SB 248 and eliminate state sales tax on all food effective January 1, 2024.** As always, please continue to shop local and support your local grocer!

Thank you.

Richard Risewick

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