SB 269, as amended, would allow any person or entity who is licensed to sell alcoholic liquor in the original package at retail to conduct wine, beer, and distilled spirits tasting on a licensed premise or adjacent premises. Such activity would be monitored and regulated by the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control and subject to the provisions in the Liquor Control Act. The bill would limit the tastings portions to one-half ounce for distilled spirits, two ounces for wine, and two ounces for beer and malt beverages. The bill would prohibit any charge for sample servings, and a person could be served more than one sample. The bill also would prohibit any samples from being removed from the premises. Finally, the bill would exempt the provision of samples from the requirement of holding a Kansas food service dealer license.

Background

Proponents of the bill included representatives from the Wine & Spirits Wholesalers Association, the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States, and the Wine Institute. Opponents included representatives from the Kansans for Addictions Prevention and the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Neutral testimony was provided by representatives of the Kansas Restaurant and Hospitality Association, Kansas Association of Beverage Retailers,
Tipsy's Wine and Spirits, and the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

The Senate Committee amended the bill with clarifying language. The Senate Committee also added that sampling could be provided in adjacent premises under the regulation by the ABC.

The fiscal note indicated there would be no fiscal effect from the enactment of the bill.