



**House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Testimony in Support of HB 2595- Nutrition Labeling
Presented by Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs**

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

Mister Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Eric Stafford, Vice President of Government Affairs for the Kansas Chamber. The Kansas Chamber appreciates the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2595 which prohibits excessive regulations on restaurants and vending machines in the state.

Burdensome regulations and restrictive laws are unfortunately becoming a part of everyday life. Cities and states nationwide are now pursuing legislation aimed at restricting access to certain types of food or beverages. HB 2595 prohibits certain behaviors by the state of Kansas or any of its political subdivisions.

Our legislative agenda calls to “defend the rights of business and industry from burdensome state and federal regulations.” HB 2595 takes proactive steps to ensure Kansas government, whether state or local, cannot harm restaurants or food vendors with restrictions on what products they can sell.

A few examples of restrictive regulations on the food service industry include New York City’s proposal to ban sugary drinks, and San Francisco’s ban of Happy Meal toys. Ultimately, we believe consumers are entirely capable of making their own decisions on where and what they eat without government looking over their shoulder.

We respectfully ask for your support of HB 2595. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.



The Kansas Chamber, with headquarters in Topeka, is the leading statewide pro-business advocacy group moving Kansas towards becoming the best state in America to do business. The Chamber represents small, medium and large employers all across Kansas.