



Joe Norwood, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

Testimony on HB 2292
To
The House Corrections and Juvenile Justice Committee

By Joe Norwood
Secretary
Kansas Department of Corrections
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The Department of Corrections supports HB 2292. HB 2292 repeals statutory provisions prohibiting the employment of felons in the manufacturing or serving of alcohol, cereal malt beverages and wine. HB 2292 does not alter the current restrictions on who may be issued a liquor or cereal malt beverage license. Additionally, HB 2292 retains the prohibitions against the employment of a person who has been convicted of selling alcohol to a minor or violations of other intoxicating liquor laws.

The genesis of this bill is the recognition that “dispensing or serving” of liquor and beer is very broad and includes the delivery of an alcoholic beverage or beer with a meal by the wait staff of a restaurant or a vendor at a baseball game. Therefore, a significant portion of today’s job market is unavailable to persons having a felony record. HB 2292 would leave the decision as to whether or not a particular ex felon should be hired to the owner of a restaurant, bar, winery, microbrewery or microdistillery.

The following chart sets out the section and page where the employment restriction would be repealed along with the type of business involved.

Section/Page	Business	Employee Felony Bar
Sec. 1 page 3	Farm Winery/Wine Outlet	Lifetime Ban
Sec. 2 page 5	Microbrewery	Lifetime Ban
Sec. 3 page 7	Microdistillery	Lifetime Ban
Sec. 4 page 8	Retail Sales of Liquor (Package Store)	Lifetime Ban
Sec. 5 page 8	Liquor licensee who operates restaurant, club, bar ect.	Lifetime Ban
Sec. 6 page 9	Cereal Malt Beverage licensee who operates restaurant, club, bar ect.	2 year ban

The department urges favorable consideration of HB 2292.