



For Immediate Release

February 13, 2013

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Statewide Poll Shows Kansans Do Not Want Alcohol Sold in Grocery and Convenience Stores

A statewide poll of Kansas voters sends a clear message that Kansans do not want wine, beer and spirits sold in grocery and convenience stores. The poll also shows Kansans do not want alcohol sold like Milk; do not want individuals under the age of 21 selling or handling alcohol; Kansans want local stores to be the primary sellers of alcohol; and Kansans understand changes to the current system would be harmful to the economy.

The poll, conducted by national research firm Public Opinion Strategies, show that 66% oppose allowing for the sale of wine, beer and spirits in grocery and convenience stores compared to just 29% who support a change. When asked if Kansas should ease the restrictions on the sale of alcohol, 78% said No.

House Bill 2206, currently being considered by the Kansas Legislature, would allow for the sale of wine, beer and spirits in grocery, convenience and big-box stores and expand alcohol sales to more than 3,000 outlets. Currently, Kansas has 762 liquor stores, all locally-owned small businesses.

In the poll, 81% do not want alcohol displayed and sold next to items such as milk; 61% trust local businesses to better handle the sale of alcohol in their community; and 70% said changing the current system would harm the economy.

“This poll overwhelmingly shows Kansans support the current retail alcohol system,” said Spencer Duncan, Keep Kansans in Business Director. “Kansans understand that changes to the system would be detrimental to the economy and they prefer local businesses sell alcohol in their communities. This poll is Kansans telling Legislators, “We are happy with the way things are. Please don’t make changes.”

The results:

66% oppose changing the law; 29% Support changing the law to allow hard liquor, wine and strong beer in grocery and convenience stores.

Do you believe wine and hard liquor should be displayed and sold next to items such as milk and candy? 81% No, 15% Yes, 4% Undecided/Don’t Know

Do you believe individuals who are not of drinking age should be allowed to sell and handle alcohol in grocery and convenience stores? 77% No, 21% Yes, 2% Undecided/Don’t Know

Do you believe the state should ease restrictions on the sale of alcohol? 78% No, 16% Yes, 6% Undecided/Don’t Know

Do you believe local stores should be in charge of alcohol sales in your community? 61% Yes, 31% No, 8% Undecided/Don’t Know

Do you think the change to the liquor law would be good for the Kansas Economy? 70% No, 19% Yes, 11% Undecided/Don’t Know

Additional Poll Information on Page 2



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Additional information about the poll:

- All respondents are likely voters in 2014.
- 79% of respondents indicated they vote in Primary elections
- 46% of respondents graduated from college and/or hold a post-graduate degree.
- 55% of respondents were under the age of 54.
- 52% of respondents were Women; 48% of respondents were Male.
- 45% of respondents indicated they were registered Republicans;
- 77% of respondents identified as moderate, somewhat conservative or conservative; 17% identified as liberal.

Additional information can be found at www.keepkansajobs.com

The poll was commissioned by Keep Kansas in Business and conducted by Public Opinion Strategies, a national research firm in Alexandria, Virginia which conducts polling across the United States.

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