

January 24, 2022

Memorandum:

To: House Tax Committee

From: Becky Schwartz, Executive Director Fuel True

Re: Written Support HB 2484

Chairman Smith and Members of the House Tax Committee:

My name is Becky Schwartz. I am the Executive Director of Fuel True, Independent Energy and Convenience, formally known as the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas (PMCA of Kansas), a statewide trade association representing over 250 independent Kansas Energy distribution companies and convenience store retailers throughout Kansas.

Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting HB2484. Our members own and operate convenience stores in small communities across the state. In many of these communities, the local convenience store is the grocery store. Our stores along the Missouri and Nebraska borders see customers go a few miles down the road to another convenience store or grocery store because they do not have to pay tax on the food purchases. Eliminating the food sales tax increases the customer base for our members.

We do have concerns about definitions of food. In HB 2484, all food is exempt, including prepared food. We would like to keep it at that definition. With so many different products and skus in our stores, we want to keep it simple for our employees, customers, and computers.

In conclusion, Fuel True, Independent Energy and Convenience support eliminating the food sales tax. This legislation benefits the people who need the reduction in tax the most.

Thank you.