



Memo To: House Energy, Utilities and Telecommunication

From: Mark Augustine, Owner of Triplett, Inc. doing business as 24-7 Travel Stores in Kansas

Date: January 30, 2021

Re: HB 2145

Chairman Seiwert and Committee Members:

My name is Mark Augustine, I am the Owner of ten 24-7 Travel Stores in Kansas, a second-generation business started in 1963 based in Salina, Kansas and writing to support HB 2145. My company is a member of the Fuel True Independent Energy & Convenience formerly Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas (PMCA). Just as my Kansas Association adopted a new name in 2020 in anticipation of new transportation fuels, I am one of many Petroleum Marketers evolving their business models to bring to market these alternative fuels. HB 2145 addresses just one of the regulatory changes that need to be addressed to start that evolution.

In the past three years, 24-7 Travel Stores have built two new stores in McPherson and Abilene each with a vision to incorporate electric charging stations, but each time stopped short of installing the stations due to not being able to price the electricity on a Kilo Watt Hour (KWH). Pricing the electricity on a KWH allows the customer to compare pricing between charging stations and quantifies the actual amount of electricity they are purchasing just like a gallon of gasoline.

24-7 Travel Stores has received a grant from the Department of Energy Grant to roll out biofuels and electric vehicle charging across our Kansas Interstate network of stores, full utilization of this grant hinges on HB 2145. If this bill is successful 24-7 Travel Stores plans the first installation at McPherson and then our Goodland location currently being rebuilt.

In closing thirty six of the fifty states have already supported the resell and repricing of electricity by the KWH to support the potential roll out of the next generation of electric vehicles. I hope this committee will do the same.

Respectfully,
Mark Augustine
President of Triplett, Inc.