



February 11, 2021

Memorandum:

To: Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee
From: Thomas M. Palace Executive Director Fuel True – Independent Energy and Convenience
Re: Oppose SB 84

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee:

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

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony opposing Sb 84.

Kansas convenience and grocery retailers are the backbone for games hosted by the Kansas Lottery. There are approximately 1100 convenience retailers that sell Lottery games that generate millions of dollars to the State of Kansas.

We believe that any game offered through the Kansas Lottery should be available to qualified retailers. SB 84 does not allow contracted Lottery retailers to participate in sports wagering and that is why we oppose this bill.

Retailers are always looking for different ways to generate additional revenue and develop new customers.

Sports wagering hosted by the Kansas Lottery is a natural fit for current Lottery retailers. Retailers offering lottery tickets are currently contracted with the Kansas Lottery; they have a financial track record with the Kansas Lottery and have the sufficient resources to support the activities required to conduct sports wagering.

At this time, I have no idea how many retailers will participate in sports wagering, but I have had several large chains indicate that they have serious interest participating as tier 1 sports wagering.

We also understand that to be eligible to participate in sports wagering through the Kansas Lottery that some certification requirements may be required by the Kansas Lottery.

If Lottery retailers are permitted to offer sports wagering, Fuel True would be in support of SB 84.

Thank you.