



March 13, 2023

To: House Federal and State Affairs Committee
From: Kevin Gregg, Associate Executive Director, Fuel True
Re: HB 2446 Support, Oral Testimony

Chairman Carpenter and Members of the Committee:

I am Kevin Gregg and I represent Fuel True Independent Energy and Convenience. Our association was formerly known as the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas (PMCA of Kansas). We are a statewide trade association representing over 300 independent Kansas petroleum distribution companies and convenience store retailers throughout Kansas.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HB 2446.

HB 2446 would prohibit municipalities from enacting or enforcing ordinances that would ban plastic bags and other single-use products such as cups, straws and utensils.

We support the legislation because it will provide a consistent rule across the whole state and avoid the patchwork of city and county bans we are currently facing.

Both large and small, our retailers' success is due, in part, to our ability to provide products in convenient packaging. To enhance our business, we are constantly searching for new products our customers may want. If this legislation passes, we can be confident that the products we purchase for resale in Kansas will all be acceptable, no matter where our stores are located. As it stands now, we are forced to adjust our business decisions based on the unique rules of several municipalities which have banned some of our convenience items through local ordinances. This means determining which individual stores must have specialized ordering and packaging, outside of our standard inventory management systems. In a business where we buy bags by the bale and containers by the pallet, individual exceptions at the county or municipal level present a challenge when it comes to compliance.

We are simply asking for consistency across the state for our retailers. HB 2446 accomplishes this, and we would ask for your support.

Thank You

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