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# JumpStart

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Members of the House Taxation Committee,

Thank you for having this hearing today on HB2012, the Ethanol Tax Credit bill. My name is Phil Near, and my wife and I are the owners and founders of Wichita based Jump Start convenience stores. Since we started our company almost 15 years ago, we have been blessed with tremendous growth. This wouldn't be possible without our incredible employees and the good Lord. Jump Start Stores has now over 30 stores and is growing! We have locations as far away as Abilene and Hoisington and cities in between and we're nowhere near done growing.

With the passage of the Ethanol Tax Credit, we'll be able to continue to invest in Kansas. We're proud that we've been able to go into places like Representative Carpenter's district to open a convenience store in Towanda which had been closed for decades, and we've cleaned up old, ugly stores in Representative Kessler's, Howerton's and Hoheisel's districts. We also took a fire-damaged store in Representative Sawyer's district and turned it into one of our top producing stores in just 3 months! This is the story of Jump Start and our mission to invest in Kansas.

Many people don't understand the Ethanol issue and we are proud to educate Kansans that not only is it more cost effective than regular unleaded, but it's also better for the environment and better for the economy, especially for our farmers! I've been in the fuel business for over 40 years and have managed and operated hundreds of stores so I'm confident when I say that Kansas Energy has never been in a better place than we are right now!

If you look at the surrounding states, you'll see Kansas is an outlier on the ethanol issue. Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri all have strong programs and the passage of HB2012 will make Kansas just as competitive.

Thank you for your time and I'll stand for the questions.

**Phillip L. Near, President**  
**Jump Start Stores, Inc**

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The road to better things...



Jump Start Stores Inc