



March 12, 2020

Memorandum:

To: House Agriculture Committee  
From: Thomas M. Palace Executive Director PMCA of Kansas  
Re: Testimony Supporting SB 285

Mr. Chairman and Members of the House Agriculture Committee:

My name is Tom Palace. I am the Executive Director of the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas (PMCA of Kansas), a statewide trade association representing over 300 independent Kansas petroleum distribution companies and convenience store retailers throughout Kansas.

We stand before you as a proponent of SB 285.

The State is trying to achieve more tank closures of UST's that are no longer being used and have been abandoned.

Removal of abandoned tanks under this program leads to quicker identification of potential contamination. The current program was established for eligible property owners who want to remove abandoned UST's from their property.

The program has been successful, and extension of the sunset state is needed to encourage more abandoned UST removal.

The program has helped decrease the number of blighted properties in Kansas removing run down service stations and replacing them with city parks and new businesses.

Application must be made to the State and pre-approved for specific cost reimbursement. Over 95 facilities have participated in this program since it began in 2012 resulting in the removal of 293 abandoned UST's. There are currently 270 abandoned UST's that KDHE is aware of that remain in the ground.

**SB 285** – extends the Underground Storage Tank Redevelopment fund from 2024-2032.

- The Redevelopment Fund allows for funding to pull abandoned UST's up to \$25,000.
- Provides for permanent closure of UST's.
- The UST redevelopment fund compensation advisory board.

Thank you Mr. Chairman I urge the committee to approve the bill and extend the sunset provision of the Redevelopment Fund to remove abandoned tanks.

**Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas**

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