

Testimony on SB285

House Agriculture Committee

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Date 03/12/2020

Good morning and thank you Chair Highland and members of the committee for the opportunity to provide verbal testimony in support of SB285 related to the revisions of the Kansas Storage Tank Act (KSA 65-34,100 *et seq.*). As proposed, SB285 amends the Act to extend the sunset date from July 1, 2024 to July 1, 2032 for the UST Redevelopment Fund and Compensation Advisory Board (KSA 65-34,134). The UST Redevelopment Fund provides reimbursement of preapproved costs to the property owner, up to \$25,000 per facility for the removal of abandoned underground storage tanks (USTs). A UST can be “abandoned” when there is no responsible tank owner and can be the result of foreclosure, dissolution of the business or bankruptcy. Eligibility requirements include the applicant shall not have any former association with the sale of petroleum at the facility.

This amendment will have a positive impact by extending the availability of the funds to reimburse future abandoned UST removal activities and assess potential contamination sources. Removal of abandoned USTs at blighted properties will increase the community’s economic growth and bring jobs to the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to share the importance of this bill. I welcome any questions.