

## **Testimony on SB287**

### **House Agriculture Committee**

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Kansas Department of Health and Environment**

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Good morning and thank you Chair Highland and members of the committee for the opportunity to provide verbal testimony in support of SB287 related to the revisions of the Kansas Storage Tank Act (KSA 65-34,100 *et seq.*). As proposed, SB287 amends the Act as necessary to extend the sunset date of the underground storage tank (UST) replacement program (KSA 65-34,139) from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2030. The bill also increases the amount of reimbursable 'not to exceed' expenses from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per facility for UST replacement work completed on and after July 1, 2020.

Kansas has one of the oldest inventories of USTs in the country and a full system upgrade can routinely cost well over \$250,000. The UST replacement program provides reimbursement to a tank owner for the removal of single-wall USTs and upgrade to double-wall UST systems. This bill will have a positive impact on tank owners by providing more incentive due to the maximum reimbursable amount increasing from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per facility. Contamination is often identified during tank removals and upgrades. KDHE anticipates an increased use of the reimbursement programs due to the higher reimbursement amount will help discover contamination in a more-timely manner.

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