



February 22, 2021

Memorandum:

To: House Federal and State Affairs Committee  
From: Thomas M. Palace Executive Director Fuel True  
Re: Support HB 2340

Mr. Chairman and Members of the House Federal and State Affairs Committee:

My name is Tom Palace. I am the Executive Director of Fuel True formally known as the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas (PMCA of Kansas), a statewide trade association representing over 250 independent Kansas Energy distribution companies and convenience store retailers throughout Kansas.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting HB 2340.

Fuel True supports HB 2340 because it aligns Kansas with federal laws regarding tobacco products.

Current Kansas law requires a person that purchases tobacco products be 18 years of age. However, a number of cities and counties have passed ordinances that require a person to be 21 years of age to purchase tobacco products. We currently have inconsistencies throughout the state and HB 2340 sets in statute the age persons can purchase tobacco products.

The bill also requires two controlled buys for compliance purposes. I believe that the Cigarette and Tobacco Enforcement (CATE) currently perform one controlled buy per year and will conduct additional buys at specific locations if warranted. Tobacco compliance rate in Kansas exceeds 90%. Tobacco retailers are doing a good job checking identification for age restricted products.

Thank You