



To: House Transportation Committee
From: Brian Posler, Executive Director, Fuel True Independent Energy and Convenience Association
Date: February 5, 2025
RE: HB 2121

I am Brian Posler, and I represent Fuel True Independent Energy and Convenience. We are the nonprofit, statewide trade association representing the independent Kansas Energy distribution companies and over 2000 fuel retailers throughout Kansas.

Mr. Chairman and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting HB 2121.

Electric vehicles (EVs) weigh more than their internal combustion engine (ICE) counterparts, and they can often weigh up to 30% more. That increased weight produces additional wear and tear on the roads, leading to higher maintenance costs. While they still weigh less than semi-trucks, every additional pound in vehicle weight means additional costs for maintaining state roads.

Increasing our registration fees for electric vehicles is only fair, for the ICE engine cars must pay road maintenance taxes at the pump, which these cars and motorcycles avoid. So the status quo is that the heavier EVs, which cause greater wear and tear, end up not supporting the maintenance of the roads, while their lighter ICE vehicle counterparts are taxed to subsidize these vehicles. That is fundamentally unfair.

Ours is a vital industry, providing jobs and services to residents in every single county of our state. Many of our convenience stores are now supporting electric vehicles, adding fast chargers at great expense. If this transition to EVs continues to gain momentum, then fewer drivers will be filling their gas tanks, and thus, Kansas will be collecting less gasoline tax revenue. We will still need to fund the roads at increasing levels, so that lost revenue source will force us to charge even more taxes on Kansans to make ends meet. That will harm our citizens and likely our retailers.

Currently, at least 39 states charge higher registration fees for electric vehicles, with Texas charging over \$200, so even these modestly increased fees will soon leave Kansas out of date compared to other states.

For these reasons, my members stand in support of HB 2121 and request that you recommend it favorably.