



I am Brian Posler, and I represent Fuel True Independent Energy and Convenience. We are the statewide, non-profit trade association representing the Kansas energy distribution companies, and we serve as the voice of the over 2000 retail fuel locations across the state.

Chairman Thompson and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 355. This legislation represents a critical step forward in promoting fair market practices, enhancing regulatory enforcement, and protecting the interests of both businesses and consumers across the state.

Senate Bill 355 addresses key challenges faced by our industry, including the need for clearer regulatory frameworks and stronger enforcement mechanisms to prevent unfair competition and ensure compliance with state laws. By supporting this bill, Kansas will foster a more transparent and equitable marketplace that benefits all stakeholders.

My members recognize how important it is to promote public health and safety without creating an undue burden on businesses like our fuel distributors and retailers. This bill's provisions are thoughtfully designed to enhance enforcement against reckless actors without imposing undue burdens on compliant businesses. We believe that these measures will help safeguard the integrity of the vapes market, promote consumer confidence, and encourage continued responsible sale and distribution of tobacco products in Kansas.

This bill will fill an important gap in our state's regulatory framework, and will ensure that only licensed manufacturers and wholesalers do business in Kansas. This will help Kansas shut the door on unsafe, illicit, unregulated Chinese products that are flooding our marketplace. These products are illegal to sell within China, so they export them to us, which is all we need to know about why we need to regulate them as well.

Closing this regulatory loophole, and thereby treating these vape products in ways similar to how we regulate other nicotine products will be very positive for our state. This bill will benefit our state's youth, ensuring that the FDA has an appropriate role in approvals and regulations of their sale and distribution.

We urge the committee to consider the positive impact Senate Bill 355 will have on the industry and the broader community. The Fuel True Association stands ready to collaborate with lawmakers and regulators to ensure the successful implementation of this legislation.

For these reasons, my members stand in support of this bill, and we ask that you recommend it favorably for passage.