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## TESTIMONY OF BOB ALDERSON ON BEHALF OF CASEY'S GENERAL STORES, INC. BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## **FEBRUARY 7, 2020**

Chairman Kerschen and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bob Alderson, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of Casey's General Stores, Inc. ("Casey's") in support of Senate bill No. 286.

Casey's operates more than 2,000 stores in 14 states, including 164 stores in Kansas. Currently, Casey's employs 2,800 Kansans who are paid wages in the amount of \$48,628,075.00. During this fiscal year, Casey's has sold 153,593,940 gallons of gasoline in Kansas for total gasoline sales of \$380,909,475.00. Total sales for goods and services in Kansas are \$739,175,677.00, and Casey's paid property, sales and payroll taxes in the amount of \$30,359,590. Suffice it to say that Casey's is a good corporate citizen.

Casey's is a member of the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association of Kansas ("PMCA"), and I have read the testimony of Tom Palace, PMCA's Executive Director, in support of SB 286. The purpose of my testimony is to endorse Mr. Palace's testimony and add further support for the passage of SB 286, which

- Extends the existence of the Underground Petroleum Storage Tank Release Trust Fund ("UST") and the Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tank Release Trust Fund ("AST") from July 1, 2024 to July 1, 2034.
- Increases the maximum liability of each of these funds from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000.

In particular, I want to echo Mr. Palace's remarks regarding KDHE's UST/AST programs. The Kansas program is one of the best, if not the best, in the United States. By extending the sunset date of these programs, SB 286 will have a very positive environmental impact and will provide great assistance to Kansas motor fuel distributors and retailers. Not only do the UST/AST programs offer financial assistance to tank owners/operators for corrective action costs incurred in taking remedial action due to a tank release, but third-party liability insurance is made available to tank owners/operators that satisfies EPA requirements. Thus, I urge the Committee to report SB 286 favorable for passage.

Thank you for your consideration of my remarks.