



March 1, 2023

Dear Chair Klein and Committee Members,

I'm writing to you today in opposition of HF 1726 / SF 1868, bills that would repeal the Below Cost Selling law that has been in place for over 20 years.

I am a second generation gas station & convenience store owner/operator. My brother and I have built our business to now include 5 stores in central Minnesota (Annandale, Cokato, Eden Valley, Richmond and Watkins). We built our convenience store business in our home town and surrounding communities with the intent that our children would be third generation owners. We are proud to be one of the "mom-and-pop" stores still available to consumers in Minnesota. These bills threaten the future of our business.

I can assure you this law does not raise the price of petroleum! It simply holds businesses accountable that they are not engaging in predatory pricing. If this law is repealed I am afraid we will lose our business to one of the "big-box retailers" that do not rely on the majority of their revenues from the sale of only one commodity, in this case, fuel. We cannot make up the lost revenue from just selling Snicker bars or breakfast sandwiches.

If this law is repealed, Minnesota will see businesses like mine close and we'll be left with small monopolies that will result in higher fuel prices for consumers.

I urge you to please oppose HF 1726 / SF 1868.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joyce Manske".

Joyce Manske  
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