November 2, 2021

The Honorable Joe Manchin, III
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Manchin,

On behalf of the West Virginia Oil Marketers and Grocers Association (OMEGA), I thank you for continuing to stand up for small businesses.

Most OMEGA members are home grown West Virginia businesses who employ over 2.5 percent of the State's population - more than 50,000 of your constituents. Employees of OMEGA member companies blend the fuels, deliver the gasoline, stock the shelves and work the counters - all of which brings comfort and convenience to West Virginians. OMEGA members collect a substantial amount of State revenue and taxes as well. In fact, more than 10 percent of all State taxes are generated through sales at OMEGA member businesses.

We thank you for supporting Senator Deb Fischer's (R-NE) amendment earlier this year that would prevent Americans who make over $100,000 a year or who are buying an electric vehicle (EV) that costs more than $40,000 from claiming the EV credit. The latest reconciliation bill includes a $7,500 credit for purchasing electric vehicles that would rise to $12,500 if the vehicle is assembled at a US union-operated facility. Unfortunately, this is a wealth-credit in disguise as a married couple making up to $800,000 per year could receive $12,500.

With the rising rate of inflation and its impact on motor fuel and grocery prices, the last thing West Virginians need is more government spending while Tesla's valuation continues to soar well beyond $1 trillion. Like you, we recognize these policies are not in the interest of all Americans. **While we accept that EV tax credits will likely remain in a reconciliation bill, we urge you to support small business by eliminating the wealth-credit and ensuring EV credits are available only to individuals making less than $100,000 per year.**

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these issues with you and your staff. I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Best Regards,

Traci Nelson
President