



PA Reps to Trump: Stand Up for Refiners, Fix RFS

September 18, 2018—*The Fueling American Jobs Coalition issued the following statement in response to the Pennsylvania Congressional delegation letter sent to President Trump in regard to the negative impact of the RFS on the state's constituents and economy:*

The FAJC commends the Pennsylvania Members of Congress, led by Senate candidate Rep. Lou Barletta, for taking a strong stance on behalf of the state's vitally important refining sector. Often lost in the ethanol lobby's attempts to squeeze ever more government support out of the RFS mandate is the cost that this program's flawed design carries for hard-working refinery employees, their families and their communities. The fact is, the RFS threatens refining jobs and refining sector productivity, and needs to be fixed.

Pennsylvania's Congressional delegation rightly points out the need to accomplish three specific types of reform:

- Minimizing the price of Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs), a compliance credit mechanism that inadvertently became a cash cow for Wall Street, large convenience store fuel chains, integrated oil companies and other ethanol blenders.
- Continuing the policy of relief for independent refiners via Small Refinery Exemptions, which relieve some of the RFS compliance burden for refiners who do not have blending capacity—without a refiner having to go bankrupt to demonstrate impact.
- Adopting RIN market reforms that increase the liquidity of RINs, prevent hoarding, and eliminate speculation.

On September 22, 2016, while campaigning in Pennsylvania, President Trump promised to advance regulatory reforms that would allow the Keystone State to continue to expand its role in energy production and development. Unfortunately, the RFS program as currently implemented has forced one of the state's refineries into bankruptcy and pushed another to seek investors, as the Congressmen wrote. As a state in which the President won both the Republican primary and the general election, Pennsylvania has played an outsized role in supporting the Administration. Adopting a balanced approach to RFS reforms with permanent and durable relief for refiners presents a great opportunity to honor a campaign promise and to stand with Pennsylvania workers.

The Fueling American Jobs Coalition is a coalition of union workers, mom & pop gas station owners, small retailers, and independent American oil refiners fighting for a common sense fix to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) flawed Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). The need for significant reform has only grown over the last year as the cost of purchasing Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs) to comply with the RFS has skyrocketed, threatening some refiners' survival. For additional information, visit www.fuelinqusjobs.com.

