

## **For Immediate Release**

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## FAJC Statement on President Biden's Gas Tax Holiday Plan

"Lowering the federal biofuel mandate to reflect estimated ethanol demand would help drivers save money without draining the Highway Trust Fund."

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Today, the Fueling American Jobs Coalition released the following statement on President Biden's plan to suspend the 18.4 cents-per-gallon federal tax on gasoline for three months amid historic gas prices across the nation. This announcement comes on the heels of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) recent announcement finalizing its biofuel blending levels under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), which will contribute to even higher consumer fuel costs nationwide.

"President Biden's proposal for a gas tax holiday reportedly faces a steep, uphill battle in Congress. While it's a welcome attempt to ease consumer pain at the pump, President Biden could easily provide consumers with even greater relief by partially waving the 2022 RFS requirement. A mere 10 percent reduction in ethanol blending could reduce the cost of consumer fuel by up to 30 cents a gallon, nearly twice the federal gas tax. Lowering the federal biofuel mandate to reflect estimated ethanol demand would lower gas prices without draining the Highway Trust Fund.

"A broad coalition of stakeholders have long been calling for RFS reform for years – including elected officials, labor leaders, small business owners, and independent refiners. In addition to highlighting the RFS' continued impact on gas prices, these stakeholders have spent years sounding the alarm over the biofuel mandate's threat to thousands of family-sustaining jobs, as well as America's national security and energy security. As gas prices continue to reach new highs on a seemingly daily basis, President Biden must heed these repeated calls for RFS reform and take action to protect American refineries and lower consumer fuel costs."

The RFS adds an approximated \$30 billion to domestic fuel costs annually due to the out-of-control, skyrocketing cost of Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs). This hidden tax translates to roughly an extra 20 to 30 cents per gallon for the American consumer. In February, one energy policy analyst testified in front of the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee that, "the RFS program is raising gasoline prices by approximately 30 cents a gallon."

After the EPA <u>proposed</u> its biofuel blending levels for 2020, 2021 and 2022, the Biden administration heard from a diverse array of stakeholders who <u>testified</u> about the proposal, including <u>refinery workers</u>. Their testimony was backed by a bipartisan group of elected officials, labor leaders, business advocacy groups and industries throughout <u>Delaware</u>, <u>Pennsylvania</u>, <u>New Jersey</u>, <u>Ohio and Michigan</u>, as well as <u>nationwide</u> who have been calling on the administration to fix the RFS. EPA <u>finalized</u> its proposed blending levels earlier this month.

The Fueling American Jobs Coalition is a coalition of union workers and independent American oil refiners fighting for a commonsense fix to the EPA's flawed Renewable Fuel Standard. The need for significant reform has only grown over the past few years as the cost of purchasing Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs) to comply with the RFS has grown increasingly volatile, threatening some refiners' survival. For additional information, visit <a href="https://www.fuelingusjobs.com">www.fuelingusjobs.com</a>.

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