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FAJC Warns Against Ethanol Industry Farm Bill E15 Stealth Gas Tax Expansion Push

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, the Fueling American Jobs Coalition, a coalition of union workers and independent American oil refiners, released the following statement after ethanol groups advanced two policy proposals as Farm Bill amendments: one to expand year-round E15 sales and another to eliminate Small Refinery Exemptions (SREs) under the Renewable Fuel Standard.

"Ongoing efforts to force unchecked E-15 expansion, without needed reforms to lower and prevent continuous increases in ethanol mandates, through yet another must-pass piece of legislation fly in the face of the Rural Domestic Energy Council and lawmakers' promises to pursue a responsible path forward.

"It has been made abundantly clear that the ethanol industry has no interest in a year-round E-15 compromise that would rein in the volatile regulatory costs of the Renewable Fuel Standard. It is also clear they simply want to use year-round E15 to push already unachievable ethanol mandates higher, adding to what is already a 29 cent per gallon hidden gas tax on American consumers that also puts American fuel supplies and energy jobs at risk.

"What remains unclear is why Congressional leaders formed the Rural Domestic Energy Council if they had no intention or interest in pursuing a commonsense compromise that would deliver year-round E-15 while protecting independent refiners. This move disregards the President's commitment that any E15 agreement would protect small and mid-sized refiners. Independent refiners could support a legislative package that includes year-round E15, but only if it meaningfully reduces and contains RIN costs.

"It is also perplexing that, just one day after the President issued an executive order reinforcing that dwindling refining capacity poses a national security risk, certain Members of Congress are advancing proposals that would diminish America's ability to produce gasoline, diesel and jet fuel. We oppose efforts to include E-15 in the farm bill and ask members of Congress to take a stand for the independent refinery workers, consumers, and communities they represent."

[About the Fueling American Jobs Coalition \(FAJC\)](#)

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 www.fuelingusjobs.com.