



April 25, 2023

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader of the Senate
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader the Senate
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader of the House
United States House of Representatives
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The undersigned organizations write to respectfully encourage swift action by Congress to pursue a national Clean Fuel Standard (CFS), a technology-neutral, market-driven, all-of-the-above energy approach to decarbonizing the transportation sector. A national clean fuels policy would further the nation's goal to become energy independent and has the potential to help address rising gas prices for American consumers.

Oil prices are once again rapidly rising after the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) recent announcement signaling a cut in production by 1.15 million barrels per day until the end of 2023.¹ For decades, the unpredictable OPEC cartel has exerted control over global energy markets, thus impacting what American consumers pay at the pump. It is well documented that domestic gasoline prices predominately follow the volatility of global crude oil rather than domestic market signals (see Figure 1, Appendix).² These price trends have only been exacerbated by the Russian war in Ukraine, further sending a clear signal that the time has come for the U.S. to become independent of foreign energy sources. As we approach the summer driving season, consistent with historic trends, we will undoubtedly see gas prices rise once again.³

The U.S. must look to domestic energy production sources as critical solutions to power transportation. A national CFS will spur innovation in American technology, advance energy independence, create jobs across the nation, help ensure equitable and sustainable economic growth, provide consumers with low-carbon fuel choices, and thereby ease the transition to a cleaner transportation sector.

¹ [Analysis: OPEC+ in driver's seat as oil supply growth lags demand](#)

² [U.S. Gasoline Prices Depend on Global Oil Markets - Not "Independence" | Cato at Liberty Blog](#)

³ [U.S. average monthly gasoline and crude oil prices, 2008-2021](#)



A CFS is a common-sense solution to build upon the current federal approach to transportation fuels policy, a solution that has already proven successful in states like California, Oregon, and Washington. In addition, multiple states across the country are following suit, by evaluating clean fuels policy as a solution at the state level. Allies like Canada have also implemented clean fuels policy due to the numerous benefits it creates. By implementing a market-driven approach, all fuels and vehicle technologies will compete equally, empowering consumers to choose.

With nearly 300 million internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles currently on the road, liquid transportation fuels will be needed for years to come.^{4,5} By enacting a national CFS, the U.S. will be able to continue to grow and support domestic energy production as well as reduce emissions from existing and future ICE vehicles. Americans deserve to have a choice of clean, domestically produced fuels not governed by global price shocks. A national CFS is the all-of-the-above energy approach the nation needs.

Thank you for considering our views as you examine the full range of strategies needed to meet our future economic, climate, and energy security goals. We welcome the opportunity to participate in an open dialogue to further discuss how Congress can act on this important issue.

Copied to:

Senator Tom Carper
Senator Shelley Moore Capito

Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Representative Frank Pallone

Sincerely,



⁴ [Future Capabilities of Combustion Engines and Liquid Fuels](#)

⁵ [How Today's Cars Are Built to Last - 12 years on average](#)



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Fuels Coalition





Appendix / More Information

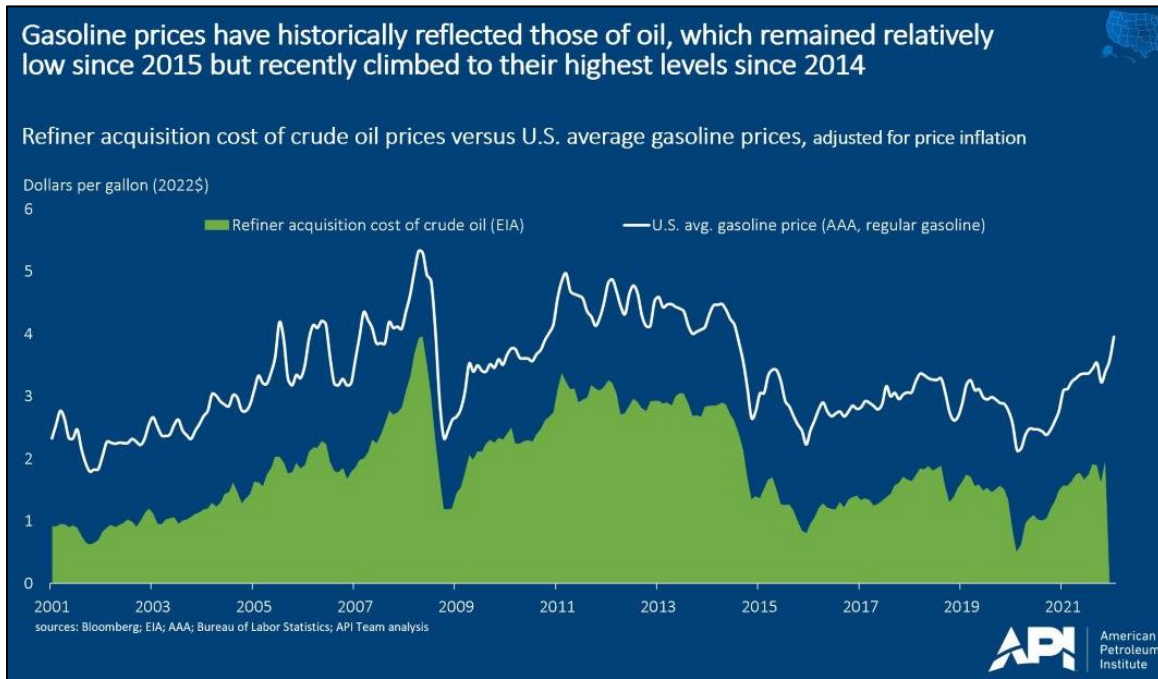


Figure 1. United States gas prices closely following global crude oil prices over time, [American Petroleum Institute, 2022](#)

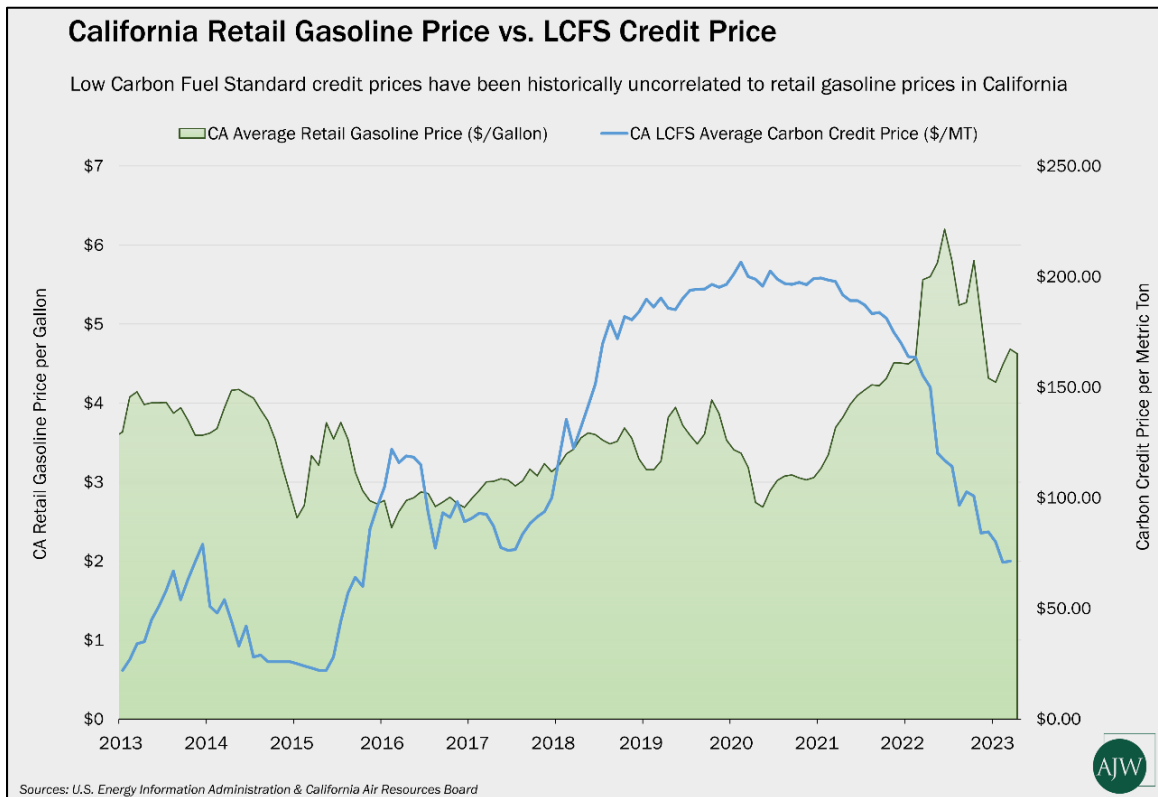


Figure 2. Comparing California retail gasoline price against the LCFS credit price