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June 8, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Upcoming Increase in the Excise Gas Tax

Dear Governor Newsom:

As a result of SB 1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017), the excise gas tax is set to increase nearly 7.5% from 54 to 58 cents on July 1, 2023.

Today, the average cost of a gallon of gas is \$4.87 in California, with some areas of the state well above \$5.50 per gallon. At a time when Californians are struggling to make ends meet and with economic uncertainty on the horizon, now is not the time to allow for a gas tax increase to go into effect. The ripple effect is felt throughout the economy with the cost of consumer goods rising in nearly every sector as a result of high fuel costs.

Last year, even President Biden called for states to implement gas tax relief for drivers at the pump. With gas prices again surging due to California's expensive regulatory environment, we owe it to Californians to provide financial relief whenever possible. I urge you to consider the negative impact this would have on taxpayers and businesses throughout the state.

Please pause the gas tax increase for the benefit of all Californians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tri Ta", written in a cursive style.

TRI TA
Assemblyman, 70th District