

From: jomanoogs
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2009 10:36 AM
To: comment, cotce
Subject: Tax Reform for CA

Dear California State Tax Reform Committee:

We recently read an article by Joseph Bankman, Professor at the Stanford Law and Business School, regarding the merits of passing a gas tax as one solution for California's budget woes. We have also read many articles by Mr. Roadshow in the San Jose Mercury News, recommending this as a solution. Previous tax generating sources have been subject to wild fluctuations in monies over the years, and we need to look beyond income taxes, property taxes, corporate taxes, and sales taxes, that seem so unpopular with many, for a more reliable, consistent, and fair source of state income.

Considering the high use of automobiles in our state and lack of incentive in using public transportation, we could accomplish many positive goals by utilizing a gas tax. First it would be a reliable source of income since most people drive a car and those who drive the most, would pay the most. Secondly, it would create an incentive for people to drive less, due to the increased cost, which in turn would thirdly, reduce in a positive way, our green house gas emissions. Fourth, it would encourage more of us to use public transportation and bicycles. You could use a sliding scale for the tax that would fluctuate with the increase or decrease in the market price of gas to keep the income consistent.

To us this would be a win/win situation. I am a fourth generation Californian and have lived here for all of my 76 years. I have become increasingly disappointed in the pickle we have gotten into year after year in our inability to pass a balanced budget.

So my husband and I would strongly support and work to enact such a tax on gasoline to obtain better financial stability and improved air quality for California.

Thank you for your efforts in trying to solve these meaningful problems of tax reform for our state.

Sincerely,

Jone and Norman V. Manoogian

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