

Dina Titus said we have “got to raise the gas tax”, but gas prices have skyrocketed compared to a year ago in Nevada. Titus even voted to create a state law that could end up increasing the state’s gas tax by 18 cents per gallon.

BACKUP:

In 2020, Dina Titus said, “Well you’ve got to raise the gas tax”:

- In 2020, Titus called for an increase in the gas tax. [HOST] “What’re your thoughts on that, the best way to address the actual revenue stream going into the Highway Trust Fund.” [TITUS] “Well you’ve got to raise the gas tax. That hasn’t been done since the early 1990’s. And then you have to trigger it to increases that go in effect automatically. The state of Nevada did that, you did that here in Clark County. And it wasn’t a political issue because people know we need infrastructure.” (Podcast, “Rep. Dina Titus at the Moving America Forward forum in Las Vegas,” [Engineering Influence](#), 2/21/20) ([NRCC YouTube](#), Uploaded 8/1/22)

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NEVADA AVERAGE GAS PRICES^①

	Regular	Mid-Grade	Premium	Diesel
Current Avg.	\$5.079	\$5.336	\$5.529	\$5.375
Yesterday Avg.	\$5.079	\$5.339	\$5.532	\$5.386
Week Ago Avg.	\$5.140	\$5.397	\$5.595	\$5.538
Month Ago Avg.	\$5.558	\$5.790	\$5.989	\$5.954
Year Ago Avg.	\$4.007	\$4.230	\$4.405	\$3.889

(“Nevada Average Gas Prices,” [AAA](#), Accessed 8/1/22)

While serving in the Nevada State Senate in 1997, Titus voted for AB525, which amended the state gas tax to automatically rise by the exact amount of any reduction in the gas tax at the federal level:

Editor’s Note: The [current federal gas tax rate](#) is \$0.18 per gallon. If the federal gas tax were to be entirely suspended, Nevada’s state gas tax would increase \$0.18 per gallon because the law supported by Titus automatically raises Nevada’s gas tax by the exact amount of any reduction at the federal level.

Editor’s Note: In 2022, Titus [called for the repeal of the law](#) that automatically raises Nevada’s gas tax by the exact amount of any reduction at the federal level, despite voting for the law in 1997.

- In 1997, Titus voted for AB525, which amended the state gas tax to automatically rise by the exact amount of any reduction at the federal level. “The Gas Prices Relief Act of 2022 in the Senate and a bill amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 in the House of Representatives both aim to provide a federal gasoline tax holiday amid rising gas prices

nationwide. Nevada Sens. Jacky Rosen and Catherine Cortez Masto, both Democrats, are co-sponsoring the Senate version. But an existing law – that Titus voted in favor of while a state lawmaker in 1997 – automatically raises Nevada’s fuel tax by the exact amount of any reduction at the federal level. That means a proposal to reduce the federal gas tax by 18.4 cents per gallon through January 2023 wouldn’t reduce prices at the pump in the Silver State. Twenty-five years ago, Titus was one of the 19 yes votes in the state Senate on AB525, which amended the law to say the state’s gas tax ‘will increase if the tax collected by the Federal Government pursuant to the provisions of [federal law] or any other tax collected by the Federal Government relating to gasoline is reduced or discontinued in whole or in part.’” ([A.B. 525](#), 5/22/97; Jannelle Calderon, “Titus, Who Voted For 1997 Law Impeding Gas Tax Holiday, Asserts There’s A Path Forward,” [The Nevada Independent](#), 3/1/22)

- Titus voted for the third reading of Assembly Bill No. 525.

Assembly Bill No. 525.

Bill read third time.

Remarks by Senator Augustine.

Senator Augustine requested that her remarks be entered in the Journal.

Thank you, Mr. President. I want to state, for the record, why I will be voting against Assembly Bill No. 525 today. This bill includes a study to arrive at a formula for the distribution of gas tax to counties and will also require standard definitions for the inventory of roads and highways. However, yesterday this body adopted, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 53 which created an interim highway study to look at devolution and some transportation overhead costs. I think we have a duplication of efforts here. I have spoken to the Chairman of the Taxation Committee about this, but because of the late date in the session, the bill will not be amended even though there is a duplication of effort.

Roll call on Assembly Bill No. 525:

YEAS—19.

NAYS—Adler, Augustine—2.

(AB 525-1997, [Journal Of The Senate](#), 07/04/1997) (Page 95)

- **Editor’s Note:** Dina Titus was not listed as a ‘Nay’ vote. According to the [Senate Daily Journal](#), [Titus is listed out as voting against other bills](#) and speaking on the record on the same day as the AB 525 vote.