

California has been home to the nation's highest gas prices, but Katie Porter supports a bill which could raise California's gas prices by nearly one dollar per gallon. Meanwhile, our state's gas tax increased by nearly six percent starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

## BACKUP:

### California had the highest gas prices in the nation:

- **California had the highest gas prices in the nation.** “California is once again at the top of the charts, leading the nation in... wait for it... gas and diesel prices. AAA reports today's national average of \$5.014 per gallon – California comes in at a cool \$6.436 per gallon for Regular, and nearly \$7.00 per gallon for Diesel. California's prices greatly top the national averages: The average for a gallon of regular gas in California is \$6.436 per gallon, and a gallon of diesel is \$6.991.” (Katy Grimes, “California Tops Nation's Highest Gas Prices at \$6.43 Per Gallon,” [The California Globe](#), 06/13/22)
- **As of July 18, 2022, California had the highest gas prices in the nation, and a state gas take hike increased prices by about 3 cents per gallon.** “California has consistently reported the highest average gas prices, clocking in at \$5.90 as of Monday, according to AAA. A state gas tax hike took effect on July 1, increasing prices by roughly 3 cents per gallon.” (Zach Schonfeld, “Here are the highest and lowest gas prices in the US today,” [The Hill](#), 07/18/22)

### California's gas tax increased to 53.9 cents per gallon, or by nearly 6%, starting on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022:

Editor's Note:  $5.48\% = ((53.9-51.1)/(51.1))*100$

- **California's gas tax is scheduled to increase on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.** “California's gas tax is scheduled to increase on July 1 after legislative leaders rejected Gov. Gavin Newsom's proposal to suspend the hike to help drivers cope with sky-high prices at the pump.” (Dustin Gardiner, “California's gas tax will increase on July 1. Here's how much it will cost,” [San Francisco Chronicle](#), 05/02/22)
- **Drivers will pay about 3 cents more per gallon when the inflationary increase takes effect, increasing from 51.1 cents per gallon to 53.9 cents per gallon.** “Drivers will now pay about 3 cents more per gallon when the inflationary increase takes effect, with the tax rate slated to increase from 51.1 cents per gallon to 53.9 cents per gallon.” (Dustin Gardiner, “California's gas tax will increase on July 1. Here's how much it will cost,” [San Francisco Chronicle](#), 05/02/22)
- **HEADLINE:** “California's gas tax will increase on July 1. Here's how much it will cost.”

POLITICS

## California's gas tax will increase on July 1. Here's how much it will cost

(Dustin Gardiner, “California's gas tax will increase on July 1. Here's how much it will cost,” [San Francisco Chronicle](#), 05/02/22)

### Katie Porter co-sponsored H.R. 2307, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2021:

*Editor's Note:* There have been [no votes](#) on the bill during the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress as of August 2022.

- In April 2021, Porter co-sponsored H.R. 2307, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2021. (Cosponsors, [H.R. 2307](#), Introduced 04/01/21)
  - In March 2019, Porter co-sponsored H.R. 2307, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2021. (Cosponsors, [H.R. 2307](#), Introduced 03/27/19)
    - *Editor's Note:* The bill was [introduced](#) in 2019 and [reintroduced](#) in 2021. Ted Deutch, the lead sponsor of the bill, referred to the 2019 Columbia University study in his 2021 [press release](#) reintroducing the bill.

**Katie Porter co-sponsored a federal carbon tax and dividend bill, which could raise gas prices by nearly \$1 per gallon by 2030:**

- Porter co-sponsored a federal carbon tax and dividend bill. “Both Levin and Porter co-sponsored a federal carbon tax and dividend bill last Congress.” (Susan Crabtree, “Analysis: Gas Prices Spell Trouble for Green Dems,” [RealClearPolitics](#), 05/20/22)
  - Ted Deutch, a Florida Democrat, authored the carbon tax and dividend bill which attracted some 85 Democratic co-sponsors. “Rep. Ted Deutch, a Florida Democrat, authored the carbon tax and dividend bill and introduced it last year and previously in 2019. Even though it never left committee consideration, the bill attracted some 85 Democratic co-sponsors, including Pennsylvania Democratic Rep. Matt Cartwright, one of Republicans’ top targets in the Northeast.” (Susan Crabtree, “Analysis: Gas Prices Spell Trouble for Green Dems,” [RealClearPolitics](#), 05/20/22)
  - A 2019 Columbia University report said that the carbon tax and dividend bill would raise gas prices by as much as 90 cents per gallon by 2030, exporting California’s policies and prices nationwide. “But the same Columbia University report also said the carbon tax and dividend bill would raise gas prices by as much as 90 cents per gallon by 2030, exporting California’s policies and prices nationwide, and that was before gas prices skyrocketed this year. Of all the fossil fuels, the measure would have the most significant impact on the coal industry, leading to an 81% reduction in coal production by 2030 compared to current policy, according to the same study.” (Susan Crabtree, “Analysis: Gas Prices Spell Trouble for Green Dems,” [RealClearPolitics](#), 05/20/22)
- HEADLINE: “Analysis: Gas Prices Spell Trouble for Green Dems.”

## **Analysis: Gas Prices Spell Trouble for Green Dems**

By **Susan Crabtree** - RCP Staff

(Susan Crabtree, “Analysis: Gas Prices Spell Trouble for Green Dems,” [RealClearPolitics](#), 05/20/22)