

## Paul Lemay

I am writing in response to recent reporting about proposed climate-related regulations that, according to industry representatives, could significantly increase gasoline prices in our state. The article describes concerns from fuel producers that the new rules under consideration would add substantial costs to refining and distribution, and that these costs would ultimately be passed on to consumers. State Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares has also raised objections, noting that California families are already paying some of the highest fuel prices in the nation and that additional regulatory burdens would make daily life even more expensive for working people.

I share these concerns. Many Californians rely on their vehicles for work, school, and basic daily needs. When fuel prices rise, the impact is immediate and unavoidable. Higher transportation costs ripple through the entire economy, increasing the price of goods and services and placing the greatest strain on those with the least financial flexibility. Policies that further raise gasoline prices risk deepening this burden at a time when affordability is already a major challenge for households across the state.

I respectfully urge the Board to reconsider any new regulations that would add to California's already elevated fuel costs. Protecting the environment is important, but it must be balanced with the economic realities faced by working families. I ask that you pause or revise policies that would drive up gas prices and instead pursue approaches that reduce emissions without imposing additional financial hardship on Californians.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for considering the real-world impact of these decisions on the people you serve.