

Kendra Proano

I am a California resident, in Browns Valley, writing to strongly oppose AB 1421 and any expansion of research or framework for a mileage-based road usage charge (per-mile tax). California families are already struggling with some of the highest gas prices in the nation—currently around \$4.80+ per gallon compared to the national average. Policies like the tightened Low Carbon Fuel Standard and past refinery regulations have contributed to refinery closures, job losses, and greater dependence on imported fuel, which only pushes prices higher. Adding a per-mile tracking and taxing system on top of that would be devastating for working families, small businesses, rural drivers, and anyone who relies on their vehicle to earn a living. AB 1421 may claim to be just "research" or "recommendations," but it clearly builds the foundation for eventually replacing the gas tax with a mileage fee—something that would hit lower-income and longer-distance drivers hardest, raise serious privacy concerns with vehicle tracking, and discourage driving at a time when affordable mobility is already under attack. I urge the Commission to: Reject any extension or expansion of mileage-based fee studies under AB 1421. Focus instead on reducing regulatory burdens that are closing refineries and inflating fuel costs. Prioritize transparent road funding without new taxes on everyday drivers.

Thank you for considering my comments. Please keep California drivers in mind as you make these decisions.

Sincerely,

Kendra

Browns Valley