

## Association of Mayors of the Boroughs of Pennsylvania lends support to growing demand to revisit the Renewable Fuel Standard.

Late last year over 150 members of Congress sent a letter to the Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency: The Honorable Gina McCarthy, urging the EPA to consider a fair and meaningful nationwide adjustment to the ethanol mandate in the Renewable Fuel Standard.

*"Prompt action by the EPA can help to ease short supply concerns, prevent engine damage, save jobs across many U.S. industries, and keep families fed. We strongly urge you to exercise your authority and take the necessary steps to protect American consumers and the economy. Thank you for your immediate consideration of this request."*

At the April 2014 meeting in State College, the Executive Committee voted to add their support to the cause by joining Smarter Fuel Future.

Smarter Fuel Future (SFF) is a group of organizations and individuals from around the United States who are concerned about the negative effects of the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) and have come together to encourage the federal government to pass smart energy policies.

Many other groups have also joined their voices to this request, among them, the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers, the National Turkey Federation, Boat US, The Milk Producers Council, many state dairy and poultry associations, the American Motorcyclist Association, National Marine Mfrs. Assn., Outdoor Power Equipment Institute, Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners, and the National Taxpayers Union.

***Although it is touted as a cleaner fuel option, questions remain regarding its actual environmental impact, as well as the large-scale ethanol production impact on food prices. There are also numerous tests highlighting E15's harmful effects on engines and their components. It is time for Congress to consider legislative reforms to the ethanol mandate.***

***~Congressman Mike Kelly, PA 3rd Congressional District***

The current RFS, enacted in 2005 and aggressively expanded in 2007, requires increasing amounts of biofuels, most notably in the form of corn-based ethanol to be blended into the U.S. gasoline supply. Originally designed to help reduce America's reliance on foreign oil and improve the environment, the actual effects of the law have been disastrous and contrary to its intended goals.

Ethanol mandates raise food prices, put engines of all types at risk of damage, increase emissions, negatively alter land and water use, hurt efforts to curb global hunger, lower fuel economy and cost consumers more at the pump and all at the expense of American taxpayers.

From a D.C. fly-in to events in Ohio, Illinois and New York, SFF has been on-the-ground this year sharing information about the RFS' effects first-hand and encouraging individuals across the country to take action. Their goal is to raise awareness about the numerous implications of current U.S. biofuels policy, and call on lawmakers to revisit the RFS.

**To learn more about the effects of ethanol go to [SmarterFuelFuture.org](http://SmarterFuelFuture.org); sign up and take action today.**