RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles is committed to protecting residents and businesses from excessive and volatile fuel costs that place a disproportionate burden on working families, small businesses, and essential industries; and

WHEREAS, the price of gasoline in the State of California is among the highest in the nation, due in part to taxes and fees imposed at the state level; and

WHEREAS, the State's excise tax on gasoline, commonly referred to as the "gas tax", is intended to fund transportation infrastructure, but can significantly exacerbate price spikes during periods of elevated global oil prices; and

WHEREAS, global crude oil prices are highly volatile and influenced by geopolitical instability, supply chain disruptions, and market speculation, often resulting in sudden and substantial increases in fuel costs for consumers; and

WHEREAS, gasoline prices typically surge to levels that create financial hardship for commuters, disproportionately impacting low- and moderate-income households who rely on personal vehicles for work, childcare, and daily necessities; and

WHEREAS, temporary, targeted tax relief during periods of extreme price increases would provide immediate economic relief to Californians while maintaining long-term commitments to infrastructure funding during more stable market conditions; and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature and Governor have the authority to suspend or adjust fuel excise taxes in response to extraordinary economic conditions; and

WHEREAS, the Council urges the Governor and the State Legislature of the State of California to adopt a clear, automatic trigger mechanism to temporarily suspend the gas tax during such periods of elevated oil prices, ensuring timely and predictable relief for consumers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025–2026 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislation or administrative action that would suspend the State gas tax whenever the global price of a barrel of oil exceeds 10% of the 5-year average.

PRESENTED BY: JSL

JOHN S. LEE
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY: Monica Rodriguez

APR 14 2026

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