

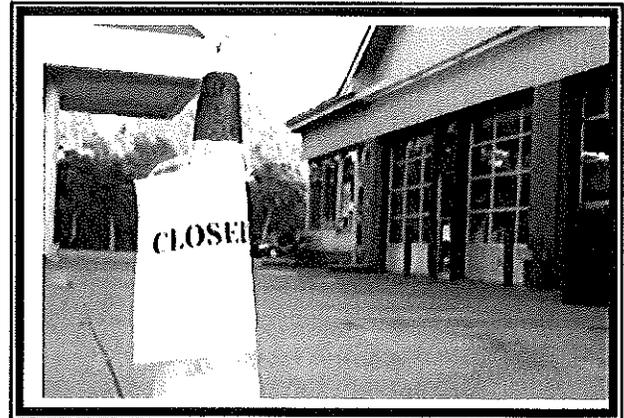


***GASOLINE & AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE
DEALERS OF AMERICA, Inc.***

18 Liberty Street, 2nd Floor Stamford, CT. 06902

OFFICE 203-327-4773 FAX- 203-323-6935 Web Site – www.gasda.org

Our Members are responsible for selling over 60% of the 1.6 billion gallons of gasoline sold annually in the State of Connecticut!



SBA Report: Small Business Continues To Fuel the Economy!

President Obama Says Small Business must be at the Forefront of the Recovery!

Gov Malloy: As Mayor of Stamford, I worked every day not only to create jobs in the city, but also to provide economic security by promoting a thriving economy as Gov I will make sure Connecticut Becomes Competitive!

THIS IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVE IT!

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

By Michael J. Fox, Executive Director

February 18, 2011

Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrera and members of the Transportation Committee, my name is Michael Fox, Executive Director of the Gasoline & Automotive Service Dealers of America, Inc. the Trade Association whose members are responsible for pumping 60% of the 1.4 billion gallons of gasoline sold in the State of Connecticut annually!

We come before you today to speak in support of (7) bills SB-31, HB-5949, HB-6136, HB-6200, SB-696, SB-699, SB-773. My testimony will cover all of these bills.

Our members fully support the installation of tolls on our major roadways and we support gateway type system with EZ-pass. With current technology we no longer need tolls at multiple locations along major routes thereby creating more congestion on our roadways. We support the installation of tolls with a couple of requests. The Gas Tax and Gross Receipts Tax revenue must be reduced now that tolls are being collected. According to the DOT, 56% of traffic on our roadways is from out of state commuter traffic and for far too many years Connecticut taxpayers and Connecticut Service Station owners have been bearing the burden of paying for the roads they use and abuse because those out of state commuters have been getting a FREE ride as they do not purchase gasoline in our State. Simply put, they can avoid the higher taxed gasoline by making purchases either before entering Connecticut or when leaving the State. These are undisputed facts. We must stop the FREE ride and relieve the burden that has been on the backs of Connecticut taxpayers and service station owners for far too long now!

The second request is that all tax revenue collected from the gas tax and gross receipts tax be used exclusively for their intended purposes, road/bridge maintenance and construction and the Connecticut Underground Clean-Up Fund. These revenue streams are critical to Connecticut long term success and it is time for the legislature to treat this revenue stream as such by requiring any misdirection, and I wanted to use another word, but any misdirection of funds must be by a 2/3 vote of the house and senate. Anything less is a sham and playing politics with our States future. By putting these requests into legislation, this will provide transparency for the general public and assist in getting support. By example, a reduction of \$.20 cents in the Gross Receipts Tax from its current rate of approximately \$.22 to \$.24 cents per gallon will leave \$.02 to \$.04 cents per gallon which should be more than enough to fund the Connecticut Underground Tank Clean-Up Fund. Our members would agree, as we did in all the last gas tax cuts, to pass all reductions in taxes onto consumer. A \$.20 reduction in the tax equates to a \$2.00 savings on a 10-gallon fill up. This reduction will restore Connecticut's retail gas prices to a more competitive nature when compared to surrounding States. This will insure a steady revenue stream of gas tax revenue and now get at the root cause of this issue, which is not collecting any revenue at all from the 56% of out of state commuters and raiding the legislatures continue raiding of over 3 Billion dollars of Gross Receipts Tax revenue since 2001. If we continue down this now win path, will not only bankrupt our small business owners, but the State itself! Thank You and I will answer any questions you may have!

Total Gross Earning Tax Collected by Fiscal Year	Amount Collected Gross Receipts Only	Amount Collected Gas Tax Only	Total Amount Collected in Gas & Gross Receipts Tax
2001 to 2002	\$100,113,928.89	\$430,285,551.80	\$530,399,480.69
2002 to 2003	\$125,451,234.89	\$457,993,450.29	\$583,444,685.18
2003 to 2004	\$139,895,375.02	\$464,468,315.79	\$604,363,690.81
2004 to 2005	\$179,047,465.99	\$483,796,835.53	\$662,844,301.52
2005 to 2006	\$279,590,420.22	\$395,448,506.68	\$675,038,926.90
2006 to 2007	\$309,403,944.97	\$393,076,196.63	\$702,480,141.60
2008 to 2009	\$367,783,239.57	\$495,125,319.38	\$862,908,558.95
2009 to 2010	\$264,917,722.75	\$503,655,620.24	\$768,573,342.99
	\$1,766,203,332.30	\$3,623,849,796.34	\$5,390,053,128.64