



January 4, 2023

The Honorable Senator Nancy Skinner  
Capitol Office, 1021 O Street, Suite 8630  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SUPPORT for SB X1-2: Transportation fuels: maximum gross gasoline refining margin

Dear Senator Skinner:

As Mayor of the City of Monterey, I am writing to express my strong support for SB X1-2, the Price Gouging Penalty bill.

As oil companies hiked prices and raked in record profits in late 2022, the impacts have had a ripple effect that staggered communities, consumers, labor, and businesses across the state. I support the Price Gouging Penalty to discourage these price hikes from happening again and help provide much-needed oversight and transparency to hold the oil and gas industry accountable, creating checks and balances to protect Californians. If oil companies exceed the bill's threshold for maximum refining margins, they should be charged a tiered penalty amount to be deposited into the Price Gouging Penalty Fund, which will return these excessive profits back to Californians for the prices they were gouged at the pump.

Furthermore, I, Mayor Williamson, support expanding the authority of the California Energy Commission and California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to investigate and obtain information from Big Oil. With increased oversight and transparency, the state can evaluate costs, profits, and pricing in the refining, distribution, and retail segments of the California gasoline market to uncover irregularities and minimize the likelihood of future unjustifiable price hikes.

Due to the significant and severe environmental and financial burdens that the oil and gas industry has imposed for decades, I thank you for taking steps to provide realistic solutions that will support communities, consumers, labor, and businesses through oversight and accountability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyller Williamson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Tyller Williamson, Mayor  
City of Monterey

Cc: City Council of Monterey  
Senator John Laird  
Assemblymember Dawn Addis