

October 9, 2017

I was at a local gas station the other day and notices a sign affixed to the top of each fuel pump. The sign was a notice from the state of California regarding the new taxes being levied by the state for the purchase of Gasoline and Diesel fuel.

The amounts, over a short period of time will equate to approximately a 41 cent a gallon increase for Gasoline and a 35 cent increase for Diesel fuel. So California's will be back up to the \$4.00 a gallon price for fuel again.

The change is due to a legislative bill, SB1, that <sup>WAS</sup> submitted to Governor Brown to address the crumbling State and Local roads in California. Gas and Diesel will be taxed for this endeavor along with a 4 percent increase in the sales tax for each purchase. There will also be an increase of \$25.00 to \$175.00 ~~increase~~ in new vehicle registration fees, based upon the value of the vehicle.

California already pays some of the highest rates for fuel in the country. Some of this is based upon the specifications for the production and type of ingredients ~~in the production of~~ California fuel. *S. Pulford FOW*

I am not aware of any other state with as stringent specifications as California, which raises the cost of production making California fuel very expensive in comparison to most

states. This is why you find many who live in Northern California driving to Oregon to purchase fuel.

California boast as having the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world, absent any influence by the federal government. With an economy so large and the industry to support it along with a population of 39 million you would think a fuel increase for road infrastructure is not warranted.

I would think <sup>with</sup> the existing tax base and good budgeting California would be able to meet <sup>its</sup> ~~the~~ commitments to all the needs of a populace with an economy as large as California. So where is the problem and why are the hard working citizens of California being tasked with bailing out what appears to be incompetence in Sacramento.

It is no secret that many businesses and industry <sup>ALP</sup> ~~is~~ moving to states like Texas in order to grow and provide a good living to their employees as well as providing a economical product to the average buyer.

I think California needs to stop taxing its way out of problems and become innovative in their solutions. If our legislature and Governor don't wake up we will see steady decline in population and revenues. This has been Mike Downey for  
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