



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**Andy Beshear**  
GOVERNOR

Kentucky State Office Building  
501 High Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601  
Phone: (502) 564-2611  
Fax: (502) 564-2517

May 5, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

***Re: Request to Congress to Suspend the Federal Gas Tax***

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Thune, Leader Jeffries, and Leader Schumer,

I write to request that Congress immediately suspend the federal gasoline tax to provide financial relief to American families. Because of President Trump's war in Iran, Americans are feeling the pain of rising gas prices and Congress should act.

There is no dispute. The war in Iran sent oil prices soaring. Before the war, nearly 25% of global crude oil passed through the Strait of Hormuz. The Strait is now closed, oil prices have skyrocketed, and there appears to be no end in sight.

But the pain Americans are experiencing is all too clear. The national average gas price is over \$4 per gallon.<sup>1</sup> That is up nearly \$1 per gallon since this time in 2025. This increase means American drivers will pay on average nearly \$575 more for gas in 2026 than they did in 2025.

Higher gas prices mean American families will have to cut back in other places: rent, groceries, childcare, car payments, or that family vacation they have been waiting to take.

Americans are worried gas prices may rise even higher. According to an April 7, 2026 Pew Research Report, nearly seven in ten Americans said they were "very concerned" or "extremely concerned" the war in Iran would cause higher gas and fuel prices.<sup>2</sup> This concern is shared by

<sup>1</sup> National average gas prices, available at <https://gasprices.aaa.com/> (last visited Apr. 19, 2026).

<sup>2</sup> *Gas Prices Are Americans' Top Concern in Iran War*, April 7, 2026, available

***Request to Congressional Leadership to Suspend the Federal Gas Tax***

**May 5, 2026**

**Page 2**

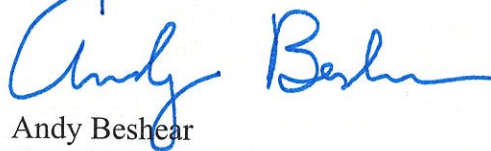
Americans of both major political parties, with nearly 60% of Republicans and nearly 80% of Democrats expressing their anxiety that gas prices will continue to rise due to the war.

As Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, my job is to help all Kentuckians achieve the American Dream. Rising gas prices are putting that Dream further out of reach. I am taking action in Kentucky, by freezing increases in the state gas and motor vehicle taxes.

I ask Congress to join me in this effort by providing relief for all American families. Suspending the gas tax will save Americans money at the pump. That's money back in the pockets of our hardworking families.

At a time when people are directly impacted by rising prices on everyday goods, a federal gas tax holiday is a tool in the toolbox that will help reduce costs for Americans. We urge you to give every consideration to this important step.

Respectfully,



Andy Beshear  
Governor



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**Andy Beshear**  
GOVERNOR

Kentucky State Office Building  
501 High Street  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601  
Phone: (502) 564-2611  
Fax: (502) 564-2517

May 5, 2026

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
U.S. Senate  
317 Russell Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rand Paul  
U.S. Senate  
295 Russell Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative Jamie Comer  
2410 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Brett Guthrie  
2434 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Morgan McGarvey  
1527 Longworth Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Thomas Massie  
2453 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Hal Rogers  
2406 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Andy Barr  
2430 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

***Re: Request to KY Congressional Delegation to Suspend the Federal Gas Tax***

Dear Kentucky Congressional Delegation:

As Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, my job is to move our state forward and help all Kentuckians achieve the American Dream. For that reason, today I asked congressional leadership to temporarily suspend the federal gasoline tax.

As you know, Kentuckians – like all Americans – are experiencing pain at the pump. With gas prices over \$4 per gallon, our people will be paying on average \$575 more for gas this year. That's a financial hit that our Kentucky families cannot stomach.

I hope each of you will help lead this Congress by proposing or supporting legislation to temporarily suspend the gasoline tax for the duration of the war in Iran or until gas prices sink to their pre-war levels – whichever is later.

In this moment, Kentuckians and the American people are counting on common-sense, bipartisan leadership from the Congress. It is up to you to provide it.


*Request to Congressional Leadership to Suspend the Federal Gas Tax*

May 5, 2026

Page 2

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your attention and prompt action on this important matter.

Respectfully,

  
Andy Beshear  
Governor

Enclosure: Letter to Congressional Leadership Requesting Federal Gas Tax Suspension