

NEVADA

Transportation Funding Initiative

Legislative Session: SB 377 was introduced on March 18, 2013.

Title of Legislation: “Revises Provisions Relating to Taxes on Fuel” (Senate Bill 377)

Sponsors of Legislation

- Senator Tick Segerblom (D)
- Senator David Parks (D)
- Senator Mo Denis (D)
- Senator Debbie Smith (D)
- Joint Sponsor: Assembly Member Richard Daly (D)

Summary of Legislation: This proposed legislation included an annual 2 cent/gallon gasoline tax increase. This flat gas tax was estimated to generate \$300 million from the first year; over the next ten years roughly \$3 billion would be raised (“Nevada Senator Segerblom Seeks 20-cent Gas Tax Hike,” Associated Press). The tax would increase from Nevada’s current 17.5 cents-per-gallon until it added a total of 20 cents by the end of ten years. The new revenues would be used to improve state highways and bridges.

Status of Legislation: As of June 4, 2013, there was no further action taken on behalf of this legislation.

Why Did This Bill Fail?

- Governor Brian Sandoval (R). The Governor made a vow to not support any new taxes, and this was the shared sentiment of Republicans in the Nevada legislature.
- Lack of a Broad Coalition.
- Lack of Support from State Leadership.

Proponents

- Nevada Trucking Association: Mr. Paul Enos, the director of the Nevada Trucking Association, supported SB 377. He said that the estimated \$330 increase for the average cost of fuel per truck was “not a substantial hit” (Vogel).
- Senator Tick Segerblom (D-Las Vegas): “I think the public is willing to pay for taxes when it’s going for something they need, like good roads.”
- Sparks Mayor Gino Martini: Mayor Martini tends to oppose tax increases, but he said that “in this case, I don’t see any other choice... “We’re behind the 8-ball in fixing roads...if you keep funding the same, it’s never going to be fixed.” (Nevada Appeal, April 5, 2013).
- Associated General Contractors
- AFL-CIO

Opposition

- Nevada Families for Freedom
- Governor Brian Sandoval: He made a vow of “no-new taxes,” and other Republican lawmakers followed his lead.
- Western States Petroleum Association
- Nevada Families and Eagle Forum

Polling Data: October 2010 Poll by Impact Nevada

- 41.8% of those polled support a fuel tax increase that would improve local roads.
- Less than 13% of respondents would support a fuel tax that expanded interstate highways and roads.
- 42.2% of respondents would prefer to cease road construction instead of passing a fuel tax increase.

Text of Legislation

Bill Text: <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/77th2013/Bills/SB/SB377.pdf>

References

"NV SB377 | 2013 | 77th Legislature." *LegiScan*. eLobbyist LLC, 04 Jun. 2013.

Vogel, Ed. “More Cops bill, gas tax hike measure clear Assembly panel.” *Las Vegas Review-Journal Capital Bureau*. 11 April 2013. <http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/nevada-legislature/more-cops-bill-gas-tax-hike-measure-clear-assembly-panel>

SB 377 Information: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/77th2013/Reports/history.cfm?ID=897>

Nevada Families for Freedom. <http://www.nevadafamilies.org/>

<http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/nevada-legislature/state-senator-pitches-gas-tax-ease-project-neon-congestion>

http://elkodaily.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/nevada-senator-segerblom-seeks--cent-gas-tax-hike/article_0c243af4-9d9c-11e2-b7af-001a4bcf887a.html

Nevada Appeal. 5 April 2013. http://www.tripnet.org/docs/NV_Nevada_Appeal_FP_040513.pdf

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