

Annette Behm-Caldwell
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4120 Memorial Hwy
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HB 1382

Dear Chairperson [Name] and Members of the Committee,

I appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony in opposition to House Bill 1382, which proposes an increase in the state gas tax. While I understand the need for infrastructure funding, I strongly believe that raising the gas tax at this time would place an unnecessary burden on North Dakota residents and businesses.

In the course of 2024 business, Open Road Honda used approximately 8,000 gallons of gas. Most of the gas was used in the new sales and service departments. We fill up lawn mowers, snowblowers, trimmers, engines, off road dirt bikes, ATV and UTVs and motorcycles. With a few UTV exceptions, the gas was used in non-roadway machines or motorcycles which do not contribute to road wear and tear.

North Dakota businesses are already dealing with high inflation and increased sales and property taxes. Raising the gas tax will impact businesses across the state and ultimately lead to higher prices for consumers across the state.

I urge the committee to reject HB 1382 and consider more balanced approaches to infrastructure funding that do not disproportionately affect hardworking North Dakota business owners. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Annette Behm-Caldwell
Dealer Principal
Open Road Honda