



EV Mississippi

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MISSISSIPPI HYBRID AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE TAX POSITION

[HATTIESBURG, MS, February 7, 2019] EV Mississippi, a non-profit organization advocating for the support of hybrid and electric vehicles, **strongly opposes** the hybrid and electric vehicle punitive tax which unfairly targets a subset of Mississippi vehicles through double taxation. The organization **fully supports** the repeal and refund of the punitive tax hastily passed in order to allow for a more thoughtful conversation on alternative fuel vehicles.

EV Mississippi opposes the following bills submitted for Legislative consideration due to their lacking the necessary elements of a complete repeal and refund effort:

NO: House Bill 51 – This Trojan horse bill only exempts current owners but maintains, and makes provisions for increasing, the existing tax on hybrid and electric vehicles.

NO: House Bill 399 – Only covers compressed natural gas, hydrogen fuel cells, liquefied natural gas, and liquefied petroleum gas.

NO: House Bills 475 and 907 and Senate Bill 2265 – Only covers the repeal of the tax on hybrid vehicles.

NO: House Bills 604, 832 and 882 – These bills do not provide a provision to refund any taxes already paid.

The EV Mississippi organization, and its members, FULLY SUPPORT Senate Bill 2002 which provides not only for the repeal of the hybrid and electric vehicle tax, but also a refund for any unnecessary taxes already paid.

Gasoline tax is currently 18.4 cents per gallon including the fee for environmental protection. Owners of electric vehicles pay sales tax on electricity used to charge their vehicles. Owners of hybrid vehicles not only pay the gasoline tax for any gasoline they use but also may incur sales tax on electricity purchased. Gasoline tax would have to be 26.17 cents per gallon in order to equate to the sales tax incurred by hybrid and electric vehicle owners.

The addition of an annual tax targeting hybrid and electric vehicles is unfair and unjust. The gasoline tax should be increased to equate the amount already charged to owners of hybrid and electric vehicles prior to any additional punitive taxes. Raising the tax on gasoline and diesel by 8 cents per gallon would add approximately \$170 million to the roads and infrastructure budget. From that point, a meaningful conversation should take place in order to provide a path for hybrid and electric vehicle infrastructure development and an equitable means of taxation based on energy consumed similar to gasoline-based vehicles.

For additional information please contact EV Mississippi via email at Info@EVMississippi.org.

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