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Taking Action Against High Gas Prices

Throughout Missouri, families are feeling the financial stress from filling up at the pumps. The price of fuel has skyrocketed throughout the country, and these record-breaking highs are starting to have dire effects on the pockets of Missourians. Today the majority of our oil comes from outside the U.S., many times from nations that are not our friends. High gas prices are also having a negative impact on the automotive industry, resulting in job reductions in automotive plants throughout the state. This is why I am joining Governor Blunt in demanding action from the federal government to find ways to ease the strain.



It is time for the federal government to stop stalling, and start taking effective steps towards lowering gas prices in this country. Drilling and refining our own oil supplies would increase fuel available in the U.S., and lower gas prices. Using our own reserves would also decrease our dependence on foreign oil.

The increase in gas prices stems

from the high cost of crude oil, which has been trading at record levels. Refineries have been finding it more and more expensive to produce products such as gasoline. While Missouri has the nations cheapest average gas prices for regular unleaded (\$3.886 a gallon on average), there is little indication of prices dropping back to a manageable rate. Missouri

businesses, workers, and families are feeling the pinch. Missouri's congressional delegation needs to speak for the best interests of families in this state and support energy solutions. The federal government needs to expand free market possibilities by authorizing drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Domestic drilling is also possible within the continental United States and off shore along the continental shelf, and the federal government should be taking steps to allow and promote this practice. New refineries in our country can also make a positive difference on the current energy strain.

Missouri needs a unified voice in Washington to promote an increase in our domestic oil supply. Senator Kit Bond, Representatives Todd Akin, Roy Blunt, Jo Ann Emerson, and Sam Graves have all voiced support for oil exploration here in the U.S. This is a critical issue for Missouri families, and I will continue to encourage any and all actions that will reduce gas prices.

Contact Me

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: jcrowell@senate.mo.gov or visit me on the web at http://www.senate.mo.gov/crowell.

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