

Poll: Gas tax increase might fly

February 28 2006

A New York Times/CBS News poll suggests Americans might OK a gasoline tax hike if it reduced global warming or lessened U.S. dependence on foreign oil.

The nationwide poll conducted last Wednesday through Sunday showed Americans are overwhelmingly opposed to a higher federal gasoline tax, but a tax hike that brought measurable results would be acceptable to most Americans.

The Times said 85 percent of the 1,018 adults polled opposed a federal gas tax hike, but 55 percent said they'd support such an increase if it reduced the U.S. dependence on foreign oil. And 59 percent said they'd approve a gasoline tax hike if it resulted in less consumption or eased the threat of global warming.

The federal gasoline tax has been 18.4 cents a gallon since 1993.

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Citation: Poll: Gas tax increase might fly (2006, February 28) retrieved 24 April 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2006-02-poll-gas-tax.html

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