



May 31, 2017

Co-sponsor S. 517 and H.R. 1311 to allow E15 Year-Round

- E15 is a clean, safe and low-cost fuel which can be used in nine of every 10 cars on the road today. It is available at approximately 800 retail locations in 29 states.
- In order to increase the fuel's availability, EPA or Congress should remove a burdensome regulation which currently blocks the sale of E15 in most of the country during the summer driving season.
- We support bipartisan legislation (S. 517 and H.R. 1311) to clarify that E15 should be allowed for sale from June 1 through Sept. 15.

Background

The Clean Air Act requires EPA to control the evaporative emissions of gasoline from the June 1 – Sept. 15 summer driving season to reduce ground-level ozone and smog.

To measure evaporative emissions, EPA uses the Reid vapor pressure (RVP) standard expressed in pounds per square inch (psi). The higher the RVP of a fuel, the worse its emissions are. The RVP of gasoline can range from 7 to 15 psi. The RVP of pure ethanol is 2 psi. Most gasoline used in the U.S. today is actually a blend of 10 percent ethanol and 90 percent gasoline (E10). E10 gasoline has a RVP of about 10 psi.

In 1990, Congress amended the Clean Air Act to allow gasoline with 10 percent ethanol a “one-pound waiver” of EPA’s evaporative emission limit [CAA § 211(h)(4)]. In other words, Congress gave EPA the authority to allow the use of E10 (the maximum amount of ethanol allowed in gasoline in 1990) during the June 1 – Sept. 15 season.

In 2011, EPA approved the use of E15, a fuel with lower RVP emissions than E10 and straight gasoline. Unfortunately, EPA refuses to apply the same RVP standard to E15 that applies to E10.

EPA’s refusal to allow E15, a cleaner, less emitting fuel to be used from June 1 – Sept. 15, handcuffs gas station owners who want to offer the fuel to their customers year-round.

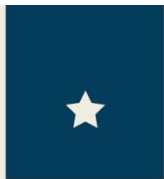
E15 typically costs 2 to 10 cents per gallon less than E10 and gasoline, so refusing to allow the sale of this fuel in the summer season also robs consumers of the opportunity to buy a lower cost product.

We support bipartisan legislation to clarify that E15 should be allowed June 1 through Sept. 15. We also encourage EPA to provide retailers relief from this RVP regulatory burden.

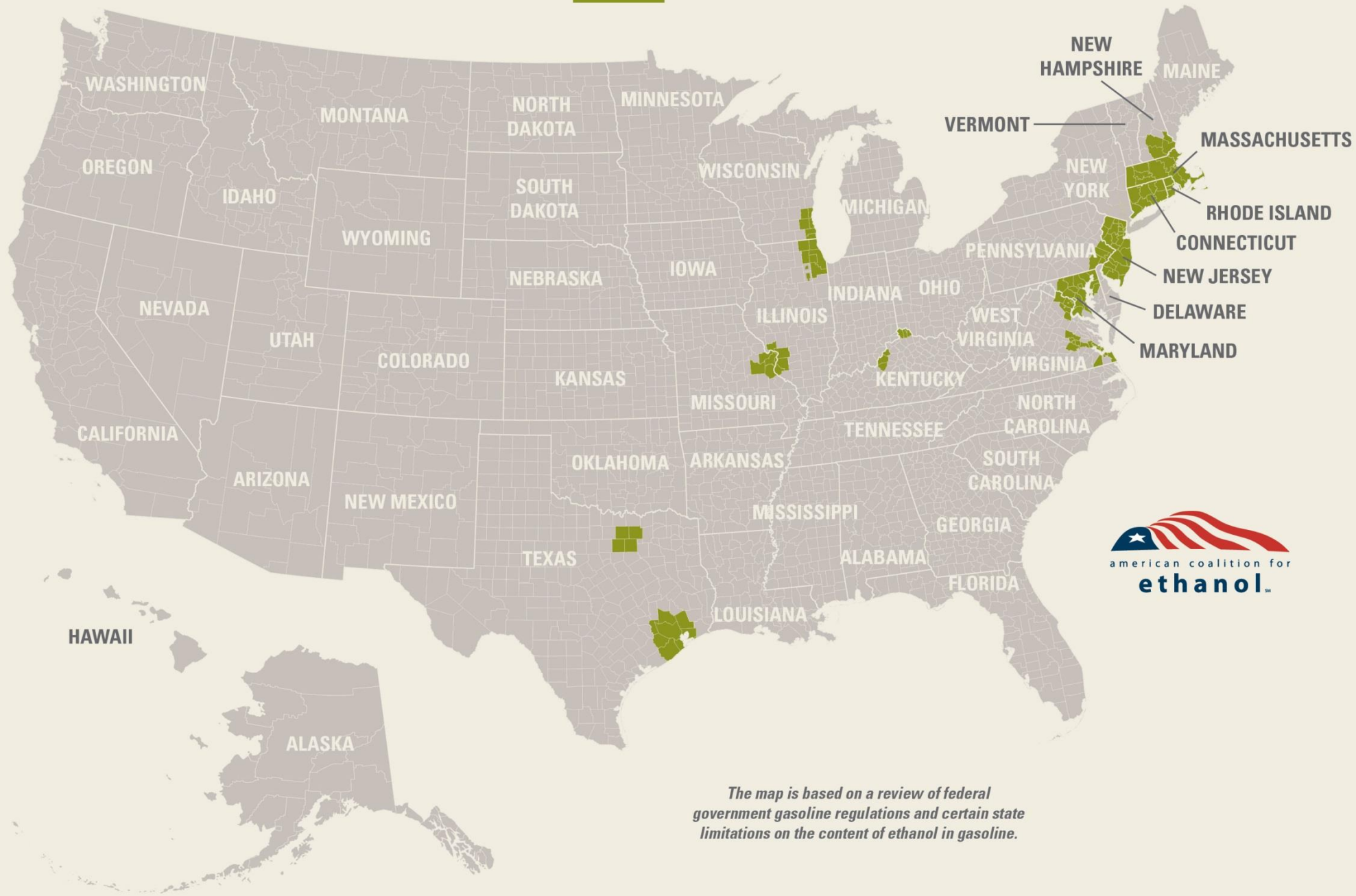
S. 517 - sponsored by Senators Fischer, Donnelly and Grassley. Cosponsors currently include Senators Baldwin, Blunt, Duckworth, Durbin, Ernst, Franken, Heitkamp, Hoeven, Klobuchar, McCaskill, Moran, Roberts, Rounds, Sasse and Thune.

H.R. 1311 - sponsored by Representatives Smith (NE-3) and Loeb sack (IA-2). Cosponsors currently include Representatives Bacon (NE-2), Banks (IN-3), Blum (IA-1), Bost (IL-12), Buck (CO-4), Bustos (IL-17), Cartwright (PA-17), Cramer (ND-AL), Davis (IL-13), Donovan (NY-11), Duffy (WI-7), Emmer (MN-6), Fortenberry (NE-1), Gibbs (OH-7), Graves (MO-6), Hollingsworth (IN-9), Jenkins (KS-2), Kelly (IL-2), Kind (WI-3), King (IA-4), Kinzinger (IL-16), LaHood (IL-18), Luetkemeyer (MO-3), Marshall (KS-1), Moolenaar (MI-4), Noem (SD-AL), Nolan (MN-8), Peterson (MN-7), Pocan (WI-2), Rokita (IN-4), Slaughter (NY-25), Smith (MO-8), Walz (MN-1), Yoder (KS-3), and Young (IA-3).

COUNTIES WHERE E15 **CANNOT** BE USED YEAR-ROUND.



COUNTIES WHERE E15 **CAN** BE USED YEAR-ROUND.



The map is based on a review of federal government gasoline regulations and certain state limitations on the content of ethanol in gasoline.

