

# GET GOVERNMENT GRAIN OUT OF YOUR TAILPIPE

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**TOPLINE:** The renewable fuel standard (RFS) is a misguided government mandate that requires that your car's gas contain a minimum amount of renewable fuels, mostly corn starch ethanol. **This climate agenda driven policy raises the price of gas for Americans and adds to the ongoing affordability crisis.**

**BACKGROUND:** Congress created the RFS in 2005, before the shale and fracking revolution fundamentally transformed America's oil and gas industry. At the time, the US was a net importer of oil products. **Today, the US is a net exporter of oil products and produces almost three times the oil we did when RFS started.** Yet the RFS remains, locking in a policy framework designed for scarcity rather than abundance.

## WHAT THE RFS DOES:

- RFS requires transportation fuels like gasoline to contain a minimum volume of renewable fuels, mainly corn starch ethanol along with advanced biofuels.
- EPA enforces compliance through a tradable credit system.

## WHY REPEAL RFS?

- **RFS increases the cost of gas and makes the current affordability crisis worse.**
- From 2014-2023, "Americans spent **\$28 billion more on ethanol** than the same amount of energy from gasoline would have cost" [according to R Street](#).
- **RFS increases the price of gas by ~30 cents a gallon.**
  - **CONTEXT:** The federal gas tax is **18.4 cents**.
- **40% of American-grown corn** is fed through the ethanol industry before some of it is then turned into co-products, such as feed for livestock. This redirects the industry and artificially increases costs and diverts some corn away from being used in the food supply.
  - **READ MORE:** [WSJ: The Ethanol Gasoline Tax](#)

**BOTTOMLINE:** If unleashed through deregulation, the American private sector, especially the oil industry, could dramatically bring down fuel costs for Americans. **Instead, the private sector is being held back by the RFS to benefit one industry at the expense of the American people.** Congress should repeal the renewable fuel standard and stop telling Americans what they can put in their car's gas tanks.

