

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 will be available at more than 2,000 retail locations in 29 states by the end of 2018.
- In order to increase the fuel's availability and reduce refiner renewable identification number (RIN) costs, 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.
- EPA is analyzing its legal options for providing Reid vapor pressure (RVP) relief. We support either bipartisan legislation (S. 517 and HR 1311) to clarify that E15 and higher blends should be allowed June 1 through Sept. 15 or EPA action to remove this RVP regulatory burden on its own.

Background

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

EPA uses the RVP standard expressed in pounds per square inch (psi) to measure evaporative emissions. 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 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, at the time, EPA refused 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 in certain parts of the country handcuffs gas station owners who want to offer the fuel to their customers year-round.

Allowing E15 to be sold year-round would increase ethanol blending by 300 to 700 million gallons and result in a substantial increase in the supply of RIN credits, thereby reducing RFS compliance costs for refiners.

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.

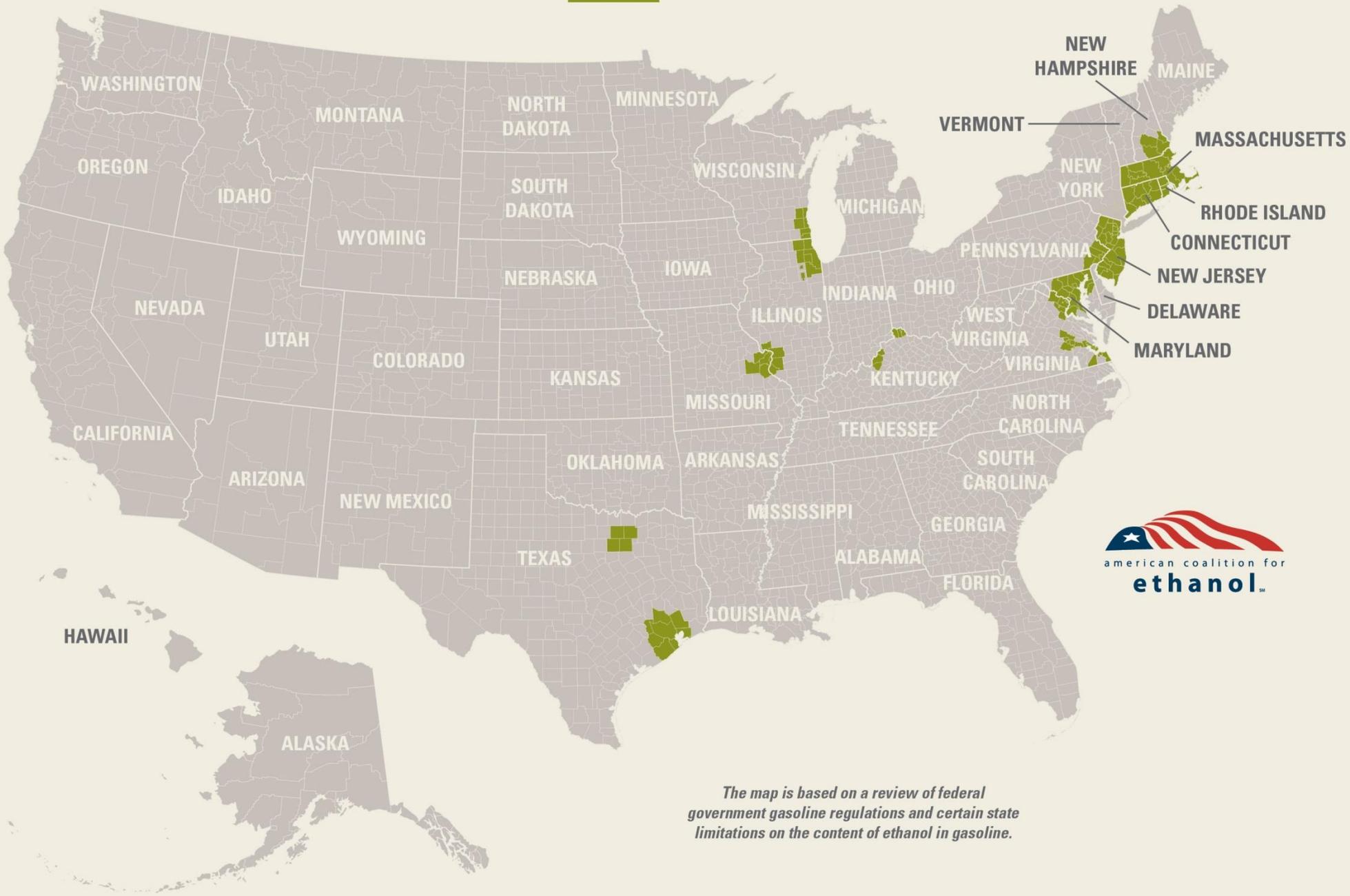
S. 517 - sponsored by Senators Fischer, Donnelly and Grassley. Cosponsors currently include Senators Baldwin, Blunt, Duckworth, Durbin, Ernst, Franken, Heitkamp, Hoeven, Klobuchar, McCaskill, Moran, Roberts, Rounds, Sasse, Smith, and Thune.

H.R. 1311 - sponsored by Representatives Smith (NE-3) and Loeb (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), Comer (KY-1), Cramer (ND-AL), Davis (IL-13), Donovan (NY-11), Duffy (WI-7), Emmer (MN-6), Estes (KS-4), Fortenberry (NE-1), Foster (IL-11), Gallego (AZ-7), Gibbs (OH-7), Graves (MO-6), Hartzler (MO-4), Hollingsworth (IN-9), Jenkins (KS-2), Jordan (OH-4), Kelly (IL-2), Kind (WI-3), King (IA-4), Kinzinger (IL-16), Krishnamoorthi (IL-8), LaHood (IL-18), Luetkemeyer (MO-3), Marshall (KS-1), McCollum (MN-4), Moolenaar (MI-4), Noem (SD-AL), Nolan (MN-8), Peterson (MN-7), Pocan (WI-2), Rokita (IN-4), Roskam (IL-6), 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.