

March 7, 2013

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting my office in regard to ethanol. As you know, in recent years, the EPA has issued waivers allowing 15% blended ethanol fuel to be sold to certain light-duty vehicles. The EPA's decisions have seen criticism around the notion that higher concentrations of ethanol may damage the engines of motorcycles or vehicles not equipped for its use, and that car owners are usually unaware of this danger.

I share such concerns about ethanol's negative effects on engines, as well as food, fuel prices and the environment. For this reason, I decided to co-sponsor legislation introduced by Representative James Sensenbrenner (WI-05) on February 27, 2013, which seeks to provide for a comprehensive assessment on the scientific and technical implications of the use of mid-level ethanol blends. This bill, known as H.R. 875, would require studies that compare ethanol-gasoline blends of 15-20% to those of 0-10% blends in conventional gasoline-powered motor vehicles and nonroad vehicles or engines, evaluating both short-term and long-term environmental, safety, durability and performance effects.

H.R. 875 has been referred to the House Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, and Energy and Commerce for further review. While I am sure you may not agree with every vote I cast representing you, you will always know my rationale for the decisions I make on the House floor. I am committed to open government and transparency, which is why I post updates from Washington and explanations for final passage votes on each House bill on my Facebook page at www.facebook.com/reprichardhanna.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of my offices in the future if I or my staff can be of assistance. We work for you.

Warm Regards,

RICHARD HANNA
U.S. Representative