



# TRANSPORTATION Advocates of Texas

Moving people, creating jobs.

## TAOT CHAIRMAN EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR EV FEE IN AUSTIN, TX

On April 26, Transportation Advocates of Texas (TAoT) 2022 Chairman Drew Campbell spoke at a public hearing of the House Transportation Committee in Austin, TX. The hearing – the first held by the Committee since Interim Charges were released by the Speaker's Office – focused largely on state demographic trends, potential future reductions in funding from state/federal gas taxes due to more electric and hybrid vehicles, potential fees to address the looming shortfall, the need to extend the Proposition 1 and 7 sunset dates to ensure those revenue streams are available for future UTPs, a status report on the reopening of the Texas Mobility Fund, and various other issues related to the Department of Motor Vehicles, including temporary license plate fraud.

The following is Drew Campbell's testimony in support of an Electronic Vehicle (EV) fee:

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, thank you for the invitation to speak with you today about Electric Vehicle Fees. I am Drew Campbell and I am here today on behalf of the Transportation Advocates of Texas to express our support for an Electric Vehicle User Fee.

The Transportation Advocates of Texas is a statewide coalition that supports adequate funding for the highway transportation demands of Texas. We support funding solutions for infrastructure improvements that improves the quality of life for all Texans.

There are currently 23,000,000 vehicles registered in the State of Texas of which less than 100,000 are Electric Vehicles. Electric Vehicles currently pay only the registration fee towards funding Texas Highways, since they pay no gas tax as they do not use gasoline. As a state, we must address this issue and ensure electric vehicles are paying their fair share to fund Texas highways.

Currently, 30 states have instituted a fee averaging \$125.00 annually on electric or hybrid vehicles with a low of \$64 to \$235 annually. Some include Hybrids some don't and some include a Vehicle Miles Travel Component. There is not an Electric Vehicle fee at the Federal level.

We all are well aware the current gasoline tax is no longer robust and is now collecting fewer dollars per mile travelled than ever before and it is time to rethink our approach to funding Transportation via a user fee/tax.

The Transportation Advocates of Texas recognizes it is time to acknowledge the changing mix of vehicles in the fleet available to the driving public. To that end, we are ready to support legislation to enact a new fee/tax that is equitable, transparent and easy to administer.


Equity would take into account that some drivers put more miles on the road than others and there should be a way to take that into account as in the current system, you only pay the gas tax for every gallon of gas used.

Transparent in that it is easy for the consumer to use and understand and make their payments and finally, easy to administer so there is not a burden on the state for collections.

Thank you for your time.

For more information about the EV fee, visit  
<https://taotx.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/EV-USER-FEE-LEGISLATION-us-letter-1.pdf>

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