

BROCK ADAMS  
7TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE  
AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

TRANSPORTATION AND AERONAUTICS  
SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

January 28, 1975

JAN 29 1975

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

On January 3, 1975, I suggested to you an alternative to your gasoline "rationing by price" system, which is based on an across-the-board increase in the per barrel tax on imported oil.

I suggested that a two-tier process of allocating gasoline through use of coupons should be used to enable every motorist to receive an allocation of gasoline at the market price with a penalty tax for amounts used above the allocation. This was not a pure rationing system and did not involve an elaborate system of ration boards, but contemplated the use of existing State licensing procedures and a free exchange of coupons to avoid a black market.

I was very disappointed that I received only a letter of acknowledgment from your Deputy Assistant, Vernon C. Loen, on January 7, and a very simplistic reply from your Assistant, Max L. Friedersdorf, on January 23, which contained a brief memorandum indicating how gas rationing would not work.

Since sending my original letter, it is reported that Great Britain is considering such a system, and I believe you will see this system being proposed by more and more Members of Congress in the next few weeks.

The President  
The White House

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I hope you will consider this compromise between "rationing by price" and straight "coupon rationing," because I fully intend to present it to both Chairman Ullman of the House Ways and Means Committee and the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.

I would be most happy to discuss this with your energy advisors, and I hope they will consider this alternative, because I, and a number of my colleagues, find the across-the-board increase in the price of all petroleum products to be an unacceptable solution to our energy problems.

Respectfully yours,

BROCK ADAMS, M. C.

cc Mr. Donald Rumsfeld  
Honorable Al Ullman  
Honorable Torbert Macdonald  
~~Honorable~~ Harley Staggers  
Honorable John Dingell