

HARLEY O. STAGGERS
2d DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

CHAIRMAN:
COMMITTEE ON
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN
COMMERCE

HOME ADDRESS:
KEYSER, WEST VIRGINIA

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

March 11, 1974

Mr. Ronald H. Phillips
Route 2, Box 47-A
Tunnelton, West Virginia 26444

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Thank you very much for your letter of recent date. I appreciate your writing me and note with much interest your comments relative to the gasoline situation in Preston County and other areas of our State.

Needless to say, the "fuel crisis" is and has been of extreme concern to me as well. In fact, almost daily I have been in contact with the Federal and State energy officials urging that action be taken to alleviate the situation.

As you no doubt know, S. 2589, the Emergency Energy Act, was recently passed by the Congress. However, last week this legislation was vetoed by the President; and the veto was sustained in the Senate.

I am still hopeful that energy legislation will be enacted to help solve this great problem facing West Virginia and the Nation, and you may depend on my continued efforts and support.

With best wishes and kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

HARLEY O. STAGGERS

FEB 11 1974

Route #2, Box 47-A
Tunnelton, W.Va. 26444
Thursday Feb. 7, 1974

Honorable Harley O. Staggers
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20000

Dear Congressman Staggers:

I am writing you because I am thoroughly disgusted with the present system, or lack of fairness and equality in the distribution of gasoline supplies.

I realize that our country is in a critical situation concerning the energy crisis, but I can't stand for twenty five percent of the people getting and consuming seventy five percent of available gasoline supplies.

I believe that if there is a twenty percent shortage of gasoline, then each consumer ought to have to sacrifice twenty percent.

I know that in this particular area, station owners are always out of gas to certain people, while other persons who consume a larger amount are never out of gas and exercise no restraint or sacrifice whatsoever.

Then, there are cases where a particular person goes to a service station and gets \$3.00 or \$4.00 worth of gasoline, while another person goes to the same station and is told that \$1.00 or \$2.00 worth is all they can let them have.

I honestly believe that if this twenty five percent could be controlled along with the rest of the public, then it would certainly be much easier for the seventy five percent that is incurring a much more severe hardship than they rightfully ought to have to endure.

I, like most everyone else, would be disappointed if our country had to resort to gasoline rationing, and make use of the rationing coupons that our government currently has on hand, but in a democracy, the majority rules, and all persons are afforded the same opportunity.

I have been forced to miss four days of work this week, and may have to miss even more. I have work available, so I cannot Qualify for unemployment compensation, and I have too much pride to ever go on welfare, but all that I am asking is that a law or standard be initiated and enforced that would insure that if I have to suffer, then other citizen's would have to endure a portion of the suffering along with me.

I am writing Senator Byrd and Senator Randolph and Governor Moore, and will request the same of them. I usually don't do this sort of thing, but at this time, under the current conditions, I feel that it is a responsibility instead of a privilege.

I hereby urge quick action on this horrible situation.

Respectfully yours,

Ronald H. Phillips