



KARL VAN ROY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

For Immediate Release
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1-888-534-0090

VAN ROY SAYS DON'T GET GAUGED!

Report illegal gas price changes to consumer protection

Howard - As gas prices continue to climb to record highs, the level of frustration felt by motorists as they struggle to afford the higher prices is also rising. State Representative Karl Van Roy (R-Howard) reminds motorists today to try to keep a level head and report any incidents of illegal price changes.

“We need to look out for one another during tough times like this,” Van Roy said. “If you believe that you have been a victim of an illegal price change you should notify authorities not only for your own sake but to help out your fellow drivers too.”

Crude-oil futures rose above \$70 a barrel for the first time this Monday due to Hurricane Katrina’s destruction of oil and natural gas operations in the Gulf. To make matters worse, refining capacity has also been diminished by Hurricane Katrina causing prices throughout the state to rocket to well over the \$3.00 mark.

“We all have a responsibility to work together,” Van Roy said. “Consumers must conserve when possible and business must operate fairly.”

While Wisconsin does not technically have a gas gauging law, gas stations are not allowed to increase their prices more than once in a twenty-four hour period. It is also illegal to change prices while motorists wait in line.

“Consumers waiting in line to fill their tanks are allowed the lowest advertised price period,” said Van Roy. “If the sign says \$2.89 a gallon and while you’re waiting in line but the price suddenly changes to \$3.00, you are still entitled to the \$2.89 per gallon price.”

Van Roy says if you have questions regarding illegal prices changes, consumers can call the Division of Consumer Protection at 1-800-422-7128 or contact his office at 1-888-534-0090.

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