Dear Governor Newsom,

The undersigned organizations below write in opposition to SB 842 (Bradford), a bill that was amended days before the end of session and taken up in the late hours of the last night to undermine your first-in-the-nation price gouging law.

At the beginning of 2023, you and the California Legislature made history by passing the Price Gouging Penalty (SB X1-2), a landmark bill to hold the oil industry accountable for raising gasoline prices for Californians amid record profits. Thanks to your leadership, the bill was passed and signed, marking a historic victory for everyday Californians over corporate greed.
SB 842 would undermine the California Energy Commission’s ability to stop refinery shutdowns by requiring additional unnecessary consultation with industry stakeholders and the Department of Industrial Relations. The bill, which was initially a homelessness initiative, was gutted and amended at the last minute, and as a result was able to slip by under that radar with only the Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA) listed in support.

We urge you to not allow this 11th hour attack from Big Oil to upend California’s Price Gouging Penalty. Gasoline prices in California are currently $1.43 more than US gasoline prices, and new state reporting shows refinery margins have doubled since January to be $1.20 per gallon. Californians continue to suffer while the oil industry rakes in profits. In order for the Price Gouging Penalty to hold the oil industry accountable as promised, your regulators need to have freedom from restriction as they combat increasing gasoline prices.

On behalf of Californians struggling at the pump, we request that you veto SB 842 (Bradford) so the state may continue to hold the oil industry accountable for price gouging Californians. Please do not let WSPA undermine your landmark legislation and historic leadership on transparency and combating climate change.

Sincerely,

Jamie Court
President
Consumer Watchdog

Raquel Mason
Policy Manager
California Environmental Justice Alliance Action

Melissa Romero
Senior Legislative Manager
California Environmental Voters

Laura Deehan
State Director
Environment California
Amee Raval  
Policy & Research Director  
Asian Pacific Environmental Network

Christina Scaringe  
California Senior Legislative Specialist  
Center for Biological Diversity

Ellie Cohen  
Chief Executive Officer  
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Arnold Sowell Jr.  
Executive Director  
NextGen California

Meghan Sahli-Wells  
California Director  
Elected Officials to Protect America - Code Blue

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Founder  
350 Contra Costa

Marily Woodhouse  
Director  
Battle Creek Alliance & Defiance  
Canyon Raptor Rescue

Nik Evasco  
Program Manager  
350 Bay Area

Riddhi Patel  
Economic Development Coordinator  
Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment

Brandon Dawson  
Director  
Sierra Club California

Bill Allayaud  
Vice President, California Government Affairs  
Environmental Working Group

Gary Hughes  
Americas Program Coordinator  
Biofuelwatch

Haleemah Atiliboye  
Program Manager  
Breast Cancer Action

Theo LeQuesne  
Coordinator  
CA Youth Versus Big Oil

Jenn Engstrom  
State Director  
California Public Interest Research Group
Marven Norman
Policy Coordinator
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice

Kevin Hamilton
Co-Founder & Co-Executive Director
Central California Asthma Collaborative

Lynda Marin
Lead
Citizens' Climate Lobby Santa Cruz Chapter

Haley Ehlers
Director
Climate First: Replacing Oil & Gas

RL Miller
President
Climate Hawks Vote

Katherine DaSilva Jain
Petition /Sign-On Manager
Elders Climate Action, NorCal Chapter

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California Director
Food & Water Watch

Shannon Smith
Executive Director
FracTracker Alliance

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Senior Fossil Fuels Program Manager
Friends of the Earth

Elise Kalfayan
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Glendale Environmental Coalition

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Climate Action Organizer
Let's Green CA!

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Marin Interfaith Climate Action

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No Drilling Contra Costa

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Physicians for Social Responsibility - Sacramento

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Director of Strategy & Campaigns  
Physicians for Social Responsibility - Los Angeles

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Public Watchdogs

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Rooted in Resistance (Indivisible)

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Campaign Coordinator  
RootsAction.org

Robert Gould, MD  
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San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility

Emily Brandt  
Treasurer  
San Joaquin Valley Democratic Club

Rachel Altman  
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Santa Barbara Standing Rock Coalition

Pauline Seales  
Organizer  
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network

Magi Amma  
Organizer  
Santa Cruz for Bernie

Martha Camacho Rodríguez  
Director  
SEE (Social Eco Education)

Alan Peevers  
Co-Founder  
See Change Now
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jack Eidt</td>
<td>Co-Founder</td>
<td>SoCal 350 Climate Action</td>
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<td>Cari Barcas</td>
<td>Communications Director</td>
<td>Stand.earth</td>
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<td>Shoshana Wechsler</td>
<td>Co-Coordinator</td>
<td>Sunflower Alliance</td>
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<td>Magi Amma</td>
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<td>John Holme</td>
<td>Membership Coordinator</td>
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