

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

**Tuesday, January 17, 2012
Webster Hall
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM**

ACTION PACKET

**Dean Cannon
Speaker**

**Scott Plakon
Chair**

Committee Meeting Notice
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

Start Date and Time: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 09:00 am

End Date and Time: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 10:30 am

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

Duration: 1.50 hrs

Consideration of the following bill(s):

HB 391 Sale of Motor Fuel by Clemens, Bernard

HB 945 Broadband Internet Service by Holder

Workshop on the following:

HB 889 Commercial Mobile Radio Services by Eisnaugle

NOTICE FINALIZED on 01/12/2012 16:17 by Sims-Davis.Linda

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

1/17/2012 9:00:00AM

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

Summary:

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

Tuesday January 17, 2012 09:00 am

| | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| HB 391 | Favorable With Committee Substitute | Yeas: 10 | Nays: 5 |
| | Amendment 162427 Adopted | | |
| | Lines 24-26 - by Rep. Clemens | | |
| HB 945 | Favorable | Yeas: 14 | Nays: 1 |

Committee meeting was reported out: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 12:22:12PM

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

1/17/2012 9:00:00AM

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

Attendance:

| | <i>Present</i> | <i>Absent</i> | <i>Excused</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Scott Plakon (Chair) | X | | |
| Ben Albritton | X | | |
| Lori Berman | X | | |
| Jeff Clemens | X | | |
| Janet Cruz | X | | |
| Daniel Davis | X | | |
| Shawn Harrison | X | | |
| Clay Ingram | X | | |
| George Moraitis, Jr. | X | | |
| Peter Nehr | X | | |
| Kathleen Passidomo | X | | |
| Elizabeth Porter | X | | |
| Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda | X | | |
| W. Gregory Steube | X | | |
| Alan Williams | X | | |
| Totals: | 15 | 0 | 0 |

Committee meeting was reported out: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 12:22:12PM

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

1/17/2012 9:00:00AM

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

HB 391 : Sale of Motor Fuel

Favorable With Committee Substitute

| | Yea | Nay | No Vote | Absentee Yea | Absentee Nay |
|------------------------------|-----|----------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Ben Albritton | X | | | | |
| Lori Berman | X | | | | |
| Jeff Clemens | X | | | | |
| Janet Cruz | | X | | | |
| Daniel Davis | X | | | | |
| Shawn Harrison | X | | | | |
| Clay Ingram | X | | | | |
| George Moraltis, Jr. | | X | | | |
| Peter Nehr | | X | | | |
| Kathleen Passidomo | X | | | | |
| Elizabeth Porter | X | | | | |
| Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda | | X | | | |
| W. Gregory Steube | X | | | | |
| Alan Williams | | X | | | |
| Scott Plakon (Chair) | X | | | | |
| Total Yeas: 10 | | Total Nays: 5 | | | |

HB 391 Amendments

Amendment 162427

Adopted

Appearances:

Stiles Wilson - Opponent
Supertest Oil Company
205 South Hoover Street #400
Tampa Florida 33609

Mike Huey (Lobbyist) - Opponent
Florida Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association
209 Office Plaza
Tallahassee FL 32301
Phone: 850-577-9090

George Nail - Opponent
Gate Petroleum Company
P.O. Box 23627
Jacksonville Florida 32241
Phone: 904-737-7220

Committee meeting was reported out: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 12:22:12PM

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

1/17/2012 9:00:00AM

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

HB 391 : Sale of Motor Fuel (continued)

Appearances: (continued)

James Clardy (General Public) - Opponent

Clardy Oil Company
PO Box 849
Ocala Florida 34478
Phone: 352-622-7161

John Tiffany - Opponent

Time Savers Food Stores
2178 Reserve Park Trace
Tallahassee Florida 34986
Phone: 772-466-8585

Stephanie Hinton - Opponent

Jim on Oil Company, Inc.
204 N. E. Haines Street
Live Oak Florida 32064
Phone: 386-362-2935

Charles E. Roberts - Opponent

Eli Roberts & Sons, Inc
2195 Lake Bradford Road
Tallahassee Florida 32310
Phone: 850-567-8880

David Mica (Lobbyist) - Opponent

Florida Petroleum Council
215 S Monroe St, #800
Tallahassee Florida 32302
Phone: 850-561-6300

Committee meeting was reported out: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 12:22:12PM

Image controlled by Oil Co.
Franchise image -
City or County control on sq ft
of signage for permit - very limited
on size in certain jurisdictions
and not allowed in others. -



Industry is moving to a
digital format - generally
only regular and one
other grade posted - very
expensive to retrofit -
\$10,000 or more per sign.

Cash discount option
clearly expressed.

The Palm Beach Post

Print this page Close

Credit can cost you at the pump: Gas stations offer discounts for customers paying with cash

By SUSAN SALISBURY

Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

Updated: 6:12 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2011

Posted: 9:59 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2011

Dawn Martino figures saving 5 cents a gallon on gasoline is worth the extra time it takes to step inside a station and pay with cash.

"It adds up," said the West Palm Beach hairdresser. She stops at Southern Sunoco at the corner of Dixie Highway and Southern Boulevard in West Palm Beach, where this week the cash price was \$3.13 and the credit card price was \$3.18.

Some gasoline retailers, hit hard by credit and debit card swipe fees, are offering cash pricing to steer customers away from plastic. If the prices on the signs are cash prices, they must be labeled as such.

Be careful when you pull up. The price you pay is on the pump when you swipe your credit or debit card. Typically it's 5 or 6 cents more a gallon, but can be as high as 11 cents.

The retailers say they're passing on to cash customers what they save from paying credit card fees.

"You invest \$30,000 to buy a load of gas, and you barely make \$100 out of it. I make 2 cents a gallon, and the credit card fees cost me 5 cents a gallon," said Mohammed Haque, who co-owns Southern Sunoco, which began offering the discount four months ago.

Haque estimates 60 percent of his customers now are paying with cash.

"It is helping people who don't use a credit card. Nowadays, lots of people's cards are declined," Haque said. "That 5 cents goes to the credit card company. Why should you and me pay that?"

* The higher gasoline prices go (turmoil in Libya sent oil prices soaring to their highest level in more than two years on Tuesday), the smaller the profit margin for retailers, said Pat Moricca, president of the Gasoline Retailers Association of Florida in Longwood.

* But he does not recommend retailers offer cash discounts.

* "You are insulting the credit card customer when you are charging someone else less. How many people carry \$100 with them? When gas was \$4, people were pumping over \$100 worth," Moricca said.

The retail industry is pushing for federal restrictions on the card fees merchants pay, said Brandon Wright, spokesman for the Petroleum Marketers Association of America in Arlington, Va. The fees are often the second-highest cost a gas station has, after labor costs.

"It is such a tight business," Wright said.

Helen and Fred Green own the Gardens Texaco on Alternate A1A in Palm Beach Gardens. She estimates that giving discounts to cash buyers saves the business \$20,000 a year in fees. The Greens began offering the option in 2008 when prices were above \$4 a gallon. Customers who use a Texaco credit card receive the same 6-cents-per-gallon discount.

Green estimates 20 percent of the station's customers pay with cash.

"A lot of people don't care. Even if they come inside, they will pay with a credit card," Green said.

Credit card fees are hurting other types of businesses as well, Green said.

"I don't care what you shop for, a lot of stores are giving a discount if you pay with a check or cash or use a store credit card," Green said.

Green calculates that a customer who spends \$50 a week on gasoline and pays with cash saves \$52 a year.

"It's like getting a free tank," she said.

Debit card transactions also cost retailers.

"When you use debit, it costs me a quarter whether you spent 69 cents or \$6.99. After \$7, it is more beneficial to me if you use debit instead of credit. Every business is different. The fees depend on their volume," Green said.

Consumers need to make sure they know the price they're paying. At some stations, the posted cash price is as much as 10 cents below the credit card price.

Matt Curran, chief of petroleum inspections for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, said that of the 2,915 consumer complaints the department received about gas stations in 2010, 640 were related to cash and credit card payments.

Retailers must post prices at the pump but are not required to advertise them roadside. If they do, the signs must be accurate and conspicuous. If a cash price is posted, the sign must state that, Curran said.

Tier pricing is more prevalent than it was four or five years ago, Curran said, but it's up to each station to decide what it wants to offer.

Most stations along major roads in central Palm Beach County appear to have one set of prices. Typically, where there are stations near each other, there will be cash discounts.

George Segurola, who owns Gun Club Exxon at Gun Club Road and Military Trail in suburban West Palm Beach, has not joined the cash discount trend.

"I keep it the same to be fair for everyone," Segurola said. "It could drive customers away if you have several prices."

Dennis Colon, a Deerfield Beach-based service manager whose territory extends to Fort Pierce, said he hasn't noticed many stations offering the cash discount. But to him, time is money. It's too inconvenient to go inside to pay and perhaps a second time to get change.

"Nobody wants to lose time," Colon said while paying with a credit card at Southern Sunoco this week. "I even hate it when I have to go inside to get a receipt."

Find this article at:

Print this page

Close

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/money/credit-can-cost-you-at-the-pump-gas-1274234.html>

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

1/17/2012 9:00:00AM

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

HB 945 : Broadband Internet Service

Favorable

| | Yea | Nay | No Vote | Absentee Yea | Absentee Nay |
|------------------------------|-----|----------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Ben Albritton | X | | | | |
| Lori Berman | X | | | | |
| Jeff Clemens | X | | | | |
| Janet Cruz | X | | | | |
| Daniel Davis | X | | | | |
| Shawn Harrison | X | | | | |
| Clay Ingram | X | | | | |
| George Moraitis, Jr. | X | | | | |
| Peter Nehr | X | | | | |
| Kathleen Passidomo | X | | | | |
| Elizabeth Porter | X | | | | |
| Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda | X | | | | |
| W. Gregory Steube | X | | | | |
| Alan Williams | | X | | | |
| Scott Plakon (Chair) | X | | | | |
| Total Yeas: 14 | | Total Nays: 1 | | | |

Appearances:

Christopher Campbell (State Employee) - Information Only
Department of Management Services-State of Florida
4050 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee Florida 32399-0950
Phone: 850-922-2963

Slater Bayliss (Lobbyist) - Proponent
215 S Monroe Street, # 602
Tallahassee Florida 32301
Phone: 850-222-8900

Eric Mills - Information Only
Connect Florida
1020 College Street
Bowling Green Kentucky 42101
Phone: 270-781-4320

Gail Marie Perry (General Public) - Information Only
Chair, Communications Workers of America Council of Florida
P O Box 1766
Pompano Beach FL 33061
Phone: 954-850-4055

Committee meeting was reported out: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 12:22:12PM

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT
Energy & Utilities Subcommittee
1/17/2012 9:00:00AM

Location: Webster Hall (212 Knott)

Workshop

HB 889:

Appearances:

Gerry Keegan (Lobbyist) - Information Only

HB 889 Workshop

CTIA-the Wireless Association

1400 16th Street, NW

Washington DC 20036

Phone: 202-736-3238

Grace K. Freeman (General Public) - Information Only

HB 889 Workshop

12150 Renaissance Court

Orlando Florida 32826

Phone: 407-968-0888

Jose Gonzalez, (Lobbyist) - Opponent

HB 889 Workshop

Associated Industries of Florida

PO Box 784

Tallahassee Florida 32302

Phone: 850-224-7173

Kim Case (Lobbyist) (State Employee) - Proponent

HB 889 Workshop

Florida Attorney General

PL-01, The Capitol

Tallahassee Florida 32399

Phone: 850-245-0155

Monique J. Eigenbaver - Information Only

HB 889 Workshop

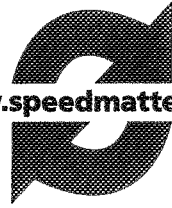
817 Copperfield Terrace

Casselberry Florida 32707

Phone: 407-921-0208

Committee meeting was reported out: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 12:22:12PM

www.speedmatters.org



Speed Matters™

Affordable High Speed Internet for America

A project of Communications Workers of America

2010



***A Report on Internet Speeds
in All 50 States***

www.speedmatters.org

SPEED MATTERS

BENEFITS OF BROADBAND

2010

a project of

CWA

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS
OF AMERICA | AFL-CIO, CLC

www.speedmatters.org

