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RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE CITY OF ABILENE OPPOSING THAT PORTION  
OF THE OMNIBUS TAX BILL INCREASING THE  
GASOLINE TAX ONE CENT, AND SUPPLEMENTING H.B.  
669 WHICH PROVIDES FOR TAX OF ONE CENT ON  
1000 CU. FT. NATURAL GAS, 62% OF WHICH  
WOULD BE PAID BY PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE STATE  
OF TEXAS.

WHEREAS, a sub-committee of the Senate State Affairs Committee  
has recommended an amendment to the Omnibus Tax Bill providing an  
additional 1¢ per gallon tax on gasoline, and

WHEREAS, said bill will cost the automobile, truck owners, and  
tax payers of this state approximately \$22,000,000.00 per year, and  
of the \$22,000,000.00 that would be raised by the 1¢ gasoline tax,  
1/4 would be allocated to the schools; \$15,000,000.00 to the  
highway commission to build \$10,000.00 per mile farm-to-market  
roads, and the remainder would be turned over to the Highway  
Commission for use in constructing highways, and

WHEREAS, this is a most ridiculous proposal, since gasoline  
is now being taxed 29% at the domestic consumer level, and

WHEREAS, natural gas has a tax at the present time of only 1/2  
of one per cent at the domestic consumer level and 62% of the gas  
produced in Texas goes out to other states and remains absolutely tax  
free, and

WHEREAS, there is no justification for increasing a tax which  
is already 29% on gasoline until more than a token tax is placed on  
the multi-million dollar pipeline companies, and

WHEREAS, House Bill 669, known as the Sewell-Nokes Bill would  
place a tax of 1¢ per 1000 cubic feet on natural gas, and

WHEREAS, House Bill 669 would allocate 1/4 to the cities for  
street paving, 1/4 to the schools, and 1/2 to the counties, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the City of Abilene's portion  
would be approximately \$75,000.00 per year for street paving, the  
County of Taylor portion would be approximately \$200,000.00 per  
year, and,

WHEREAS, The City of Abilene is in great need of additional  
paved streets, and

WHEREAS, the City of Abilene's portion of said 1¢ tax on 1000  
cubic feet of natural gas would be the equivalent to a reduction of  
approximately 10¢ of our present tax rate, and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Commissioners Court of Taylor County,

Texas has passed a resolution endorsing H.B. 669 and its members are actively supporting it's passage, and

WHEREAS, it is reliably reported that certain interests are misrepresenting the facts by telling our citizens that they will have to bear all of the increase in tax on natural gas, and are urging the citizens to wire, write or telephone our representatives to vote against H.B. 669; this misrepresentation creating an emergency,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF ABILENE in regular session assembled, go on record as opposing the increase of the present gasoline tax, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the City of Abilene, go on record as favoring the passage of H.B. 669, and  
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be wired to our State Senator and Representative and a copy be furnished the Reporter-News, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the citizens of Abilene who oppose the 1¢ per gallon gasoline tax increase are hereby urged to, immediately wire, telephone, write or go in person to Austin, Texas and so notify our legislators, and request other legislators to oppose this tax, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the citizens of Abilene who want to see our streets improved and more paving laid, and who favor the tax of 1¢ on 1000 cubic feet of natural gas, of which 62% will be paid by people outside of the State of Texas, are hereby urged to immediately wire, telephone, write or go in person to Austin, Texas and so notify our legislators, and seek the support of other legislators for H.B. 669.

Passed and approved this 4th day of May, A.D. 1951.

(SLAL)

ATTEST:

Lela Jean Martin  
City Secretary

Ernest Friedman  
Mayor