

From: Association of Washington Business [mailto:Kris@awb.org] **On Behalf Of**
Association of Washington Business
Sent: Wednesday, November 2, 2016 10:27 AM
Subject: AWB Initiative 732 Request

Dear AWB Member,

With less than a week left in this election, I wanted to take a moment to encourage your action on an issue we've been very focused on here at AWB: Ballot Initiative 732, which would create an energy tax in Washington.

For as long as I can remember, Washington businesses have been engaged in an effort to reduce their environmental footprint and protect the natural beauty of our state. Most of this work is done quietly, thoughtfully and without fanfare. But, it's making a real difference. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, carbon emissions from Washington's commercial and industrial sectors are lower today than they were in 1990. How have we accomplished this? Through the power of innovation and collaboration, which has led to the deployment of breakthrough technologies and manufacturing processes. We can build on this success if we rely on the power of innovation and collaboration to drive our policy choices.

I-732 takes us in a different direction altogether. It creates an energy tax, which will artificially increase the price of gasoline, electricity, and natural gas. These are essential items that every family needs to live and every business needs to operate. Families are already struggling to survive in many areas of Washington where the cost of living has made it difficult to pay monthly bills. How can we ask them to pay another \$.25 per gallon for gasoline, which even I-732 supporters concede will be the impact of their new tax?

The increased electricity and natural gas costs from I-732 will undoubtedly harm business investment in Washington, one of the cleanest economies in the nation. Ironically, a tax designed to reduce global carbon emissions will simply shift manufacturing out of clean Washington and into much higher-carbon states and countries. Jeopardizing opportunities for Washington workers while increasing global carbon emissions is an outcome nobody desires.

Polls show the outcome of I-732 is too close to call. With I-732 supporters bringing in nearly \$1 million in late, out-of-state money, the time to step in and make a difference is right now. **Can you donate \$500, \$1,000 or \$5,000 or more right now to make sure we have the resources to beat this initiative? You can donate online [here](#).** Your contribution will go directly into our effort to educate voters about I-732.

There are six days left in this critical campaign, and your help is needed now more than ever. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kris Johnson
President
Association of Washington Business