



Dr Monique Ryan calls on the government to guarantee motorists actually benefit from the fuel excise cut

The Albanese government is passing emergency legislation today to halve the fuel excise in a move intended to provide immediate cost-of-living relief to motorists facing petrol prices above \$2.50 a litre.

The effectiveness of this legislation depends entirely on the benefit being passed through to consumers at the retail level. Australian motorists have no guarantee that this will happen.

At a time of record low consumer confidence Dr Monique Ryan, the independent federal MP for Kooyong, is calling on the government to legislate against price gouging in the fuel industry, and to commit to weekly reporting of petrol and diesel prices at Australian service stations to Parliament until the global energy crisis resolves.

Dr Ryan today proposed an amendment to the Fuel Excise Relief Bill, noting that Australia lacks adequate legal protections against excessive pricing in fuel markets. Unlike the EU, the UK, Canada and several US states, Australian competition law does not prohibit price gouging.

Although excessive pricing by major supermarkets was prohibited under the Food and Grocery Code in 2025, fuel retailers remain exempt from similar constraints.

Last week's reforms strengthening ACCC penalties did not alter this position; they did not make price gouging unlawful.

Quote attributable to Dr Monique Ryan:

“This bill will halve the fuel excise, but there’s nothing in this bill to ensure that excise reductions are fully or promptly reflected in retail fuel prices. We deserve confidence that those changes will be passed through to motorists.” said Dr Ryan.

“I’m calling on the government to legislate against price gouging, and to commit to full transparency about petrol and diesel prices around the country for as long as this crisis continues”.