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Tax Freeze Won't Save Consumers Money

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CHARLESTON, W. Va. (AP) - A new report contends that the temporary freeze on an increase in one of West Virginia's gasoline taxes is a short-term fix that won't save consumers much money.



The West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy released a report Thursday arguing that the Legislature's decision to block a gas tax hike scheduled for Jan. 1 won't offer the relief that's been advertised.

The group cited similar freezes in Indiana and Illinois, where the bulk of savings from gas taxes went to gasoline vendors in the form of higher profits.

The Legislature voted in its June special session to block an increase in the tax that would have raised it from about 11.7 cents per gallon to 16.7 cents. Overall, West Virginia's gas taxes total 32.2 cents per gallon.

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