

Don't fall for the 'blend wall'

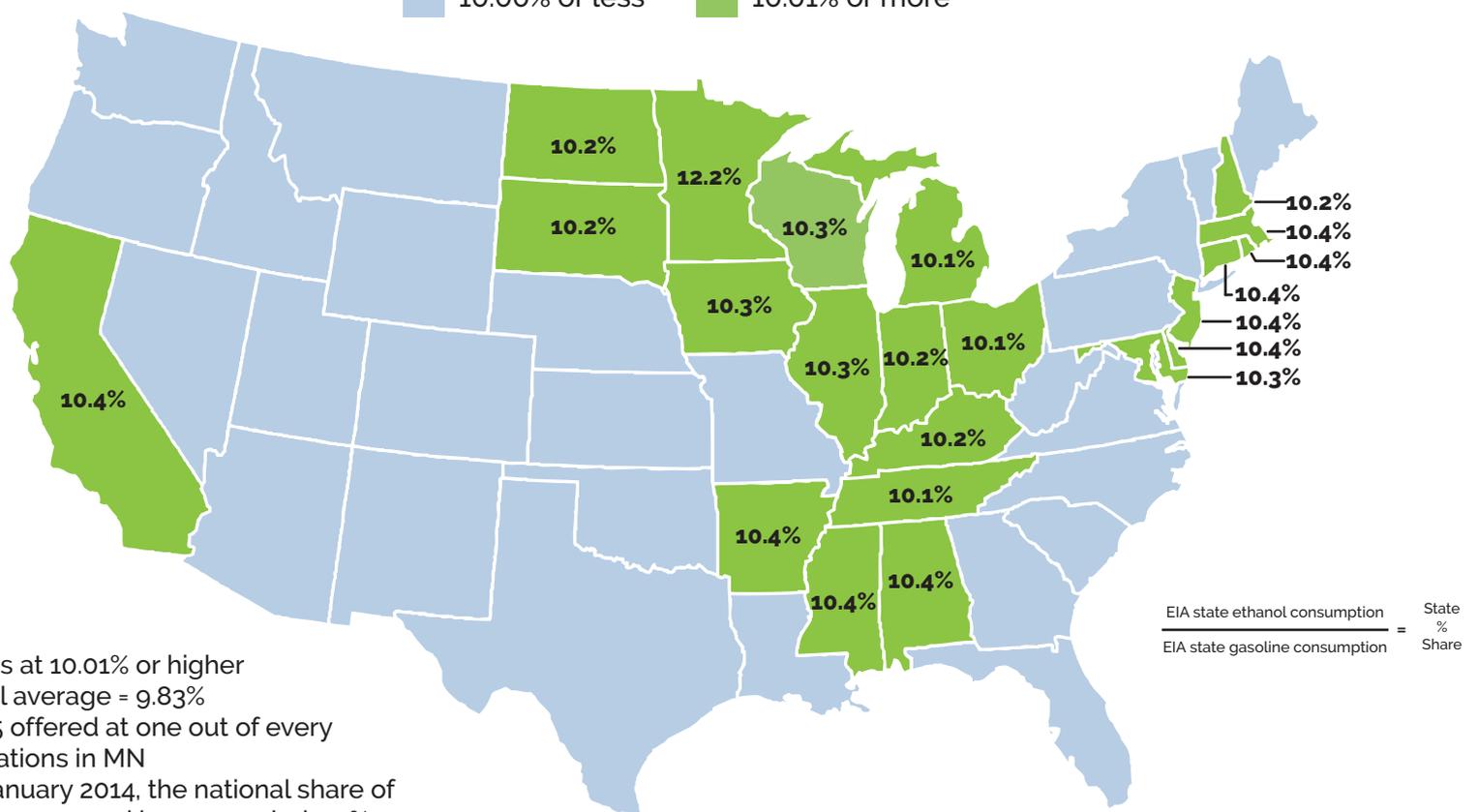
Big Oil's 'blend wall' myth claims that the U.S. fuel supply cannot contain more than 10 percent biofuel. But that myth crumbled years ago, as more and more consumers have filled up on higher ethanol blends like E15 and E85.

H.R. 5180, a proposal from U.S. Representatives Bill Flores (R-TX) and Peter Welch (D-VT), would set the bar even lower. It aims to place the oil companies' preferred and very specific 9.7 percent cap on competition from homegrown biofuels, rolling back 11 years of progress under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).

In at least 22 states, **ethanol already exceeds 10 percent of the fuel mix**. Don't roll back progress by limiting competition. Support the RFS.

Ethanol share of state gasoline consumption, 2014

10.00% or less 10.01% or more



- 22 states at 10.01% or higher
- National average = 9.83%
- E15-E85 offered at one out of every eight stations in MN
- Since January 2014, the national share of ethanol consumed has exceeded 9.7% during 58 of 136 weeks (43%)

$$\frac{\text{EIA state ethanol consumption}}{\text{EIA state gasoline consumption}} = \text{State \% Share}$$

As the Environmental Protection Agency has noted: "To date we have seen no compelling evidence that the nationwide average ethanol concentration in gasoline cannot exceed 10.0%."

H.R. 5180's 9.7 percent biofuels cap would kill competition, raise fuel costs, and threaten jobs.