## 2001 ASSEMBLY BILL 770

February 4, 2002 – Introduced by Representative Schneider. Referred to Committee on Small Business and Consumer Affairs.

- AN ACT *to create* 943.29 of the statutes; **relating to:** fuel price gouging and providing a penalty.
  - Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits a retail or wholesale seller of petroleum–based fuel (such as gasoline, diesel fuel, propane, or liquefied petroleum gas) from increasing the fuel's price by more than the amount of any increase in the price that the person paid in acquiring the fuel or by more than the amount of any concurrent increase in the person's production, distribution, or operating costs. A person who violates this prohibition may be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than 15 years, or both.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

## The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- **SECTION 1.** 943.29 of the statutes is created to read:
- 4 **943.29 Fuel price gouging. (1)** In this section, "fuel" means gasoline, diesel
- 5 fuel, fuel oil, kerosene, propane, liquefied petroleum gas, or any other
- 6 petroleum-based product that is used for heating or providing power.

## **ASSEMBLY BILL 770**

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

(2) Any person engaged in the business of selling fuel at retail or wholesale wh
intentionally does any of the following is guilty of a Class C felony:

- (a) Increases the price of the fuel by an amount that exceeds any concurrent increase in the price paid by the person to acquire the fuel.
- (b) Increases the price of the fuel by an amount that exceeds any concurrent increase in production, distribution, or operating costs that are incurred by the person and that are related to the fuel being sold.

8 (END)