



Supplemental Appropriations Bill for Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Pandemic Flu [HR 2346]

Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Act of 2009

On June 24, 2009, President Obama signed HR 2346, the *Supplemental Appropriations Bill for Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Pandemic Flu*. Contained within this bill is the *Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Act of 2009*.

The *Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save Act of 2009* authorizes the issuance of an electronic voucher to offset the purchase price or lease price for a qualifying lease of a new fuel efficient vehicle upon the surrender of an eligible trade-in vehicle to a dealer participating in the program. Dealers who participate in the program are required to accept the vouchers as partial payment or down payment for the purchase or qualifying lease of any new fuel efficient automobile or truck offered for sale or lease by that dealer; and transfer each eligible trade-in vehicle surrendered to the dealer under the program to an entity for disposal. The dealer is prohibited from charging additional fees for using this voucher. The vouchers have values of \$3,500 or \$4,500 depending on the vehicle and the improved fuel efficiency.

Qualifying new vehicles must be purchased or leased between July 1, 2009 and November 1, 2009. Only one voucher can be issued to a single person and only one voucher may be issued to joint registered owners of a single eligible trade-in vehicle. Only one voucher may be applied toward the purchase or lease of a single new fuel efficient automobile.

Eligibility for \$3,500 Voucher

The \$3,500 voucher may be used to offset the purchase price or lease price of the new fuel efficient automobile if:

- The new automobile is a passenger automobile and the combined fuel economy is at least 4 miles per gallon higher than the combined fuel economy value of the eligible trade-in vehicle;
- The new automobile is a category 1 truck and the combined fuel economy value is at least 2 miles per gallon higher than the combined fuel economy value of the eligible trade-in vehicle;
- The new automobile is a category 2 truck that has a combined fuel economy value of at least 15 miles per gallon, and
 - The eligible trade-in vehicle is a category 2 truck and the combined fuel economy value of the new automobile is at least 1 mile per gallon higher than the combined fuel economy value of the eligible trade-in vehicle; or
 - The eligible trade-in vehicle is a category 3 truck of model year 2001 or earlier.
- The new automobile is a category 3 truck and the eligible trade-in vehicle is a category 3 truck of model year of 2001 or earlier and is of similar size or larger than the new automobile.

Eligibility for \$4,500 Voucher

The \$4,500 voucher may be used to offset the purchase price or lease price of the new fuel efficient automobile if:

- The new automobile is a passenger automobile and the combined fuel economy value is at least 10 miles per gallon higher than the combined fuel economy value of the eligible trade-in vehicle;

- The new automobile is a category 1 truck and the combined fuel economy value of such truck is at least 5 miles per gallon higher than the combined fuel economy value of the eligible trade-in vehicle; or
- The new automobile is a category 2 truck that has a combined fuel economy value of at least 15 miles per gallon and the combined fuel economy value of such truck is at least 2 miles per gallon higher than the combined fuel economy value of the eligible trade-in vehicle and the eligible trade-in vehicle is a category 2 truck.

Definitions

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Passenger Automobile | A passenger automobile that has a combined fuel economy value of at least 22 miles per gallon. |
| Category 1 Truck | A category 1 truck means a nonpassenger automobile that has a combined fuel economy value of at least 18 miles per gallon, except that such term does not include a category 2 truck. |
| Category 2 Truck | A category 2 truck means a large van or a large pickup, as categorized by the Secretary using the method used by the Environmental Protection Agency and described in the report entitled <i>Light-Duty Automotive Technology and Fuel Economy Trends: 1975 through 2008</i> . |
| Category 3 Truck | A category 3 truck means a work truck. |
| Combined Fuel Economy Value | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For new fuel efficient automobiles, it is the number, expressed in miles per gallon, centered below the words "Combined Fuel Economy" on the label required to be affixed on a new automobile. |

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For an eligible trade-in vehicle, the equivalent of the number expressed in miles per gallon, and posted under the words "Estimated New EPA MPG" and above the word "Combined" for vehicles of model year 1984 through 2007, or posted under the words "New EPA MPG" and above the word "Combined" for vehicles of model year 2008 or later on the www.fueleconomy.gov website of the Environmental Protection Agency for the make, model, and year of such vehicle. • For eligible trade-in vehicle manufactured between model years 1978 through 1985, the equivalent of the number expressed in miles per gallon as determined by the Secretary and posted on the website of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration using data maintained by the Environmental Protection Agency for the make, model, and year of such vehicle. |
| Eligible Trade-in Vehicle | <p>At the time the vehicle is presented for trade-in, it meets the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is in drivable condition; • Has been continuously insured consistent with the applicable state law and registered to the same owner for a period of not less than 1 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| | <p>year immediately prior to such trade-in;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was manufactured after 1984; and • In the case of an automobile, has a combined fuel economy value of 18 miles per gallon or less. |
| <p>New Fuel Efficient Automobile</p> | <p>A new fuel efficient automobile means (as defined above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A passenger automobile; • A category 1, 2, or 3 truck; and • The equitable or legal title of which has not been transferred to any person other than the ultimate purchaser; • Carries a manufacturer's suggested retail price of \$45,000 or less; • That has the combined fuel economy value of at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 22 miles per gallon for a passenger automobile; ○ 18 miles per gallon for a category 1 truck; or |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">o 15 miles per gallon for a category 2 truck. |
| Qualifying Lease | A lease period of no less than five years. |