

WASHINGTON - Greater use of ethanol, particularly E-85, should be encouraged Congressman Lee Terry said today as he introduced a bill to help bring the 85% ethanol, 15% gasoline mixture to more drivers of flex-fuel vehicles.

"With the number of automakers making flex-fuel vehicles available, it is discouraging to potential buyers that there are so few E-85 gas pumps," Terry said. "Consumers need E-85 gas pumps, but driving across town is not something they are apt to do just to fill up their tanks each week."

Alternative fuels like E-85 should be encouraged through the market, but unfortunately there are some barriers to break down so we can get alternative fuel pumps under the canopy of your corner gas station, Terry said.

Terry today introduced the "E-85 Promotion Act" to prevent oil companies from prohibiting in their contracts with fueling station operators the installation of alternative fuel dispensing pumps, such as E-85. The "E-85 Promotion Act" would also establish a pilot program to establish sweet sorghum as an ethanol feedstock, increase the research and development tax credit for alternative and renewable energy research, and ensure that closed-loop ethanol plants like the one in Mead are eligible for existing Department of Energy loan guarantees. □ □

"Families are not out there demanding 'cellulosic' ethanol by name, but they are asking me how ethanol is going to affect corn prices in Nebraska or be affected by droughts or floods. My answer is you consider other Nebraska crops such as sweet sorghum, which research shows to provide a high-energy content product that will also reduce harmful environmental impacts like greenhouse gases so it is a win-win."

