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| **NMMA applauds amendment from Senators Feinstein,Toomey & Flake to Keystone XL pipeline bill removing ethanol from the RFS** |
| Sens. Feinstein (D-CA) and Toomey (R-PA) floated an amendment to the Keystone XL pipeline bill, the ‘Corn Ethanol Mandate Elimination Act of 2015,’ that would remove corn ethanol from the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).  Sen. Flake (R-AZ) is a co-sponsor. On Friday of last week the senators introduced an that would remove the mandate to blend normal ethanol into gasoline but preserve other renewable fuel mandates, including those for biodiesel and cellulosic ethanol. The standard ethanol mandate is effectively a corn ethanol mandate, the sponsors said.  Citing growing food prices and an increasing amount of corn ethanol in the U.S. fuel supply (the RFS caps corn ethanol production at 15 billion gallons), Senator Feinstein commented that, “This bill is a simple and smart modification of the Renewable Fuel Standard program. Once we remove the corn ethanol mandate, the RFS program can finally serve its intended purpose: to support the development of advanced, environmentally friendly biofuels like biodiesel, cellulosic ethanol and other revolutionary fuels.”  NMMA applauds the move by Senators Toomey and Feinstein as they work together, across the aisle, to address the critical flaws of the Renewable Fuel Standard. The RFS is a broken law which sets unrealistic fuel mandates and requires a long term fix from Congress. The recreational boating community as a whole knows first-hand the problems associated with the RFS. This damage hurts manufacturers during a time of important economic recovery and places the burden of unnecessary risks upon the shoulders of American consumers |