

Townsend, Erle

From: Anne Maurice <amaurice@maine.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 4:39 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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To whom it may concern:

I oppose the Advanced Clean Car II Program.

I have lived in Maine most of my life and know from experience and observation over my 70 years that Maine climate events are in flux across all seasons. I support actions that make sense for everyone to do their part to improve the environment. As an example in my neighborhood, residents plant native bushes around a lake shore to keep dangerous runoff out of the water. Citizens are changing behaviors to protect the environment in small and big ways when actions make sense for their own well-being. It takes time and education.

Mandating that only EVs are sold in Maine in the near term will only force many of us to keep old, unsafe vehicles on the road or go out of state to buy a gas powered car. Why don't we look at solutions already proven and available? Hybrid cars have reduced emissions in our state for over 20 years. These cars use at least a third less fuel than similar sized gas engines and work well here. Hybrids use the same fueling infrastructure and many small business car mechanics know how to fix them. It would be smarter for the government to subsidize a known solution, don't you think?

Maine people are doing many things to be onboard with climate change initiatives. We are reducing wood burning and fossil fuel used to heat our homes. We have been recycling for many years. We are supporting environmental education curriculums for the next generations. Forcing us into EVs without the technology for our weather, without the infrastructure to keep the vehicles charged, and without a price point that is affordable for the majority of Mainers is wrong. Choice needs to be left to the people based on their needs and lifestyle. Let the free market decide when the cross over point to EVs will be.

Anne Maurice
New Gloucester, Maine

Sent from my iPad