

Townsend, Erle

From: Cayting, Lynne A
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 3:23 PM
To: Townsend, Erle
Subject: FW: Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program

Importance: High

Lynne Cayting, Chief
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From: NETINS <enviro@gwi.net>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 1:14 PM
To: Cayting, Lynne A <Lynne.A.Cayting@maine.gov>
Subject: Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program
Importance: High

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To Whom it may concern,

I find it very telling that the originally scheduled voting date on this measure was cancelled because of a power outage. If that isn't enough to sway you to opposition, we are in need a change in leadership.

The average per capita income for Maine residents in 2021 was \$58,484, with the rural per capita income at \$52,287, according to the USDA Economic Research Service. The average base price of an EV in 2023 ranged from \$45,000 to \$74,000.

The poverty rate in rural Maine is 12.9% compared with 10% in urban areas of the state. Rural communities are the most impoverished and live where most of the power outages occur, leaving them powerless often for weeks at a time. An electric vehicle is not going to serve them well and if forced to purchase, will further impoverish them. There is no public transportation in rural communities for the most part, so there would be no alternative options to get to work when there is no power.

While clean air should not be an amenity, Maine is far from that as we have one of the cleanest air supplies in the country, unlike California located 3,000 miles away. While our congested cities of Maine look to explore more ways to maintain our clean air standards, it should do so from a public transportation standpoint.

Mainers are experiencing high inflation, and the EV industry is still very new and costly. Mandating EV sales in 2028 is a foolish idea! Mainers need options, because of the vast way we live and the vast needs we have. Destroying consumer choice never prospers a nation or a state. For this reason alone, we de-monopolize industries!

We cannot force compliance without forcing Maine families further into poverty.

If you cannot oppose this legislation, please consider your resignation. We need people who can think things through and not be short-sighted. With changes in technology, changes come, and they come naturally overtime. They do not need to be mandated.

Thank you,

Brenda Scally