

## 25 REASONS WHY WE SHOULD NOT ADOPT CALIFORNIA'S RULE IN MAINE:

1) **Northern climate.** This is Maine, not California. Maine's southern border is north of California's northern border. Our average and low temperatures run significantly lower than those in even Northern California.\* EV's lose efficiency at lower temperatures, decreasing their range between charges. Running a heating element off of batteries is hugely inefficient, so running a heater in the car will reduce the range between charges even more.

2) **Getting stuck in snow.** In Maine there is a real possibility of getting stuck in the snow in a remote location and having to wait hours to be rescued. Running the heater even at intervals will likely drain the battery long before rescue arrives, leaving occupants of the car to freeze to death.

3) **Commuting distance.** Maine is a rural state. Electric vehicles have their place in cities, where there are short commutes, and where air pollution is a concern. But in Maine, many people have long commutes to get to work, shopping areas, etc. and we have few charging stations in rural areas. Some people regularly travel far enough that they would have to re-charge before they reach their destination. Some work at the far end of the state or even in other states, and spend a few days at a time in each location. They would have to re-charge more than once to complete the trip. With an ICE, that would be a matter of taking a few minutes to fill the tank, but with an EV it will require a wait of several hours for each charge.

4) **Refueling.** If an ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) car runs out of fuel far from home, someone can bring a can of gas and get it going again. If an EV runs out of charge, you can't just bring it a tank of electricity. It will have to be towed, which (considering rural distances) can get expensive.

5) **Off Gridders.** Many people in Maine live off-grid, and will have no practical way to charge a vehicle at home. Setting up a big enough solar array to charge even one vehicle will require clearing land so the sun can get to the solar panels. Such clearing reduces carbon sequestering provided by the forest. Then they will have to buy a huge battery bank to store the energy that is gained during daylight hours so they can charge the battery overnight. And in the winter, Maine does not have as many hours of sunlight as California has. To make matters worse, most Maine families must have at least two vehicles - one for each parent when both work, or if only one works, a second vehicle for the other parent to be able to run errands, take the kids to school, etc, as nothing is within walking distance. If there is a teenager they may need a third car to get to school or work. The expense of buying the cars and keeping them charged will be far beyond what most rural Mainers can afford.

6) **Farming.** Maine's economy depends heavily on farming. In recent years we have seen our farmland devoured by solar farms. What will we eat when our farmland is gone? If more and more of our food has to be shipped in from elsewhere, that will require more fuel. The price of hay has nearly doubled in recent years, due partly to the weather but also due to loss of hayfields to development including solar farms. To feed their livestock, farmers are being forced to buy hay from other states, or even from Canada. That is revenue that is going out of the state. And as yet we do not have electric vehicles that will efficiently tow a trailer loaded with hay,

livestock, or farm equipment.

7) **Tourism.** Maine's economy also depends heavily on tourism. In recent years we have seen our picturesque countryside devoured by solar farms. What will happen to our economy when tourists no longer find our state attractive?

8) **Hunters.** Our economy also depends largely on hunters who come to visit the north Maine woods. How will tourists and hunters drive to the remote wild portions of our state in vehicles that do not have the range to get there without a long stopover to re-charge?

9) **Infrastructure.** We do not have the infrastructure to handle a conversion to EV's. Charging stations are few and far between. We are already being threatened that we may be looking at brown-outs in the winter due to so many people switching over to heat pumps. Where are we going to get the extra power needed to charge everyone's EV?

10) **Inefficiency of transmission.** Producing power and then shipping it to a remote location loses efficiency on the way. It's much more efficient to use an internal combustion engine to produce the power right where it's needed - i.e. in the vehicle itself.

11) **Power outages.** Maine is notorious for having power outages due to heavy snowstorms or ice storms taking down power lines. Most of my neighbors own a generator so they will have backup power whenever (not IF ever) the power goes out. That generator will not produce enough power to run their house AND charge even one electric car.

12) **Problems with wind farms.** Wind farms do not produce power reliably in Maine. They are only feasible due to subsidies - which come out of taxpayers' pockets. Building them requires huge shipping costs to get the parts to the site. Then when they wear out, we have no better way to dispose of the blades than to dig huge trenches and bury them. The materials are not being recycled.

13) **Problems with solar farms.** Solar farms have similar problems. Building them relies on subsidies. They take up land that was previously devoted to farming, and/or require clearing of forest land, reducing carbon sequestering. They leave us with the problem of how to dispose of the panels when they have reached the end of their useful life. The panels slowly lose efficiency with age, so they tend to be retired while they still have useful life, just because getting the same amount of power from the array would require enlarging the array. Recycling of the materials is not readily available.

14) **Battery disposal.** Batteries contain toxic materials. Recycling the batteries requires shipping them to a plant that has the capacity to separate the electrolytes and the metals. We do not have the infrastructure to handle that.

15) **Lithium mining.** Producing batteries for EV's requires mining lithium. If you think drilling for oil is dangerous to the environment, take a look at a toxic open pit lithium mine! Third world countries use child labor in the mines.

16) **Lack of hydro power.** California has a lot of hydro power. Maine has been getting rid of our hydro power dams out of concern for fish and the environment.

17) **Poverty.** Maine is one of the poorest states in the nation.

According to ALEC:

“In the recently-released ninth edition of the Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index rankings report, Maine earned its highest all-time rank of 38. While near the bottom of the 50 states, the mark is commendable in that it is the first time Maine has escaped a ranking in the 40s. Additionally, since its all-time low of 48 in 2011, Maine has improved every year, save one. Because of work done by the Maine State Legislature and Governor Paul LePage to reduce tax burdens on individuals and businesses, Maine is becoming more competitive in the New England region. The work, however, is far from over if Maine wishes to be as economically attractive as New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island or the higher-performing states across America.”

Requiring us to go to electric cars will send us in the other direction.

18) **Used cars.** Many Mainers have never owned a new car because they simply cannot afford one. Electric cars are even more expensive, and do not do well as second-hand vehicles. Many of us have never owned a vehicle that cost more than a couple of thousand dollars, if that. We depend on “beaters” that are near the end of their useful life, but that we can keep running for a few more months or a couple of years by means of backyard mechanic know-how and bondo. We can’t afford to go to a dealer and pay as much to repair a car as we would have spent to buy it. As electric cars take over, there will be fewer and fewer used runnable ICE cars available, and more and more EV’s sitting in junkyards.

19) **Battery replacement cost.** The price alone of a replacement battery bank for an EV is more than many of us would spend on a whole car. The cost of labor to replace the battery is way beyond our budget. Better to junk the car and buy a new one than to repair the old one. How wasteful! It costs less to replace the whole engine and transmission of an ICE car, and often it can be done with used parts, keeping more junk out of the waste stream.

20) **Car dealers.** Car dealers will be forced to fill their lots with more expensive inventory. Those of us who cannot afford to buy, maintain, or charge an EV will go to other states to buy our cars. This will have a huge impact on Maine’s car dealers, as well as on Maine’s economy as a whole.

21) **Used vehicle disposal.** Disposing of worn-out EV’s is problematic. The batteries contain toxic materials that cannot easily be disposed of. Junkyards will not be able to make money on resale of the cars or used parts. If they pull the used batteries out of the car, where will they store them without creating a fire hazard?

22) **Battery fires.** Battery fires are extremely hot and difficult to extinguish. We are told that such fires are rare, and that there are new technologies for extinguishing them. But our rural fire departments already struggle just to replace their outdated equipment - and they often must resort to replacing it with newer used equipment. Where will they find funds to buy new equipment

that they may never use, but that will be critical to own if such a fire does occur?

**23) Power to pass laws belongs to the Legislature.** Article 1 Section 1 of the US Constitution says, “All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.” The Maine Constitution, Article IV, part First, Section 1 says: “Legislative department; style of acts. The legislative power shall be vested in 2 distinct branches, a House of Representatives, and a Senate, each to have a negative on the other, and both to be styled the Legislature of Maine, but the people reserve to themselves power to propose laws and to enact or reject the same at the polls independent of the Legislature, and also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any Act, bill, resolve or resolution passed by the joint action of both branches of the Legislature, and the style of their laws and Acts shall be, ‘Be it enacted by the people of the State of Maine.’”

According to Webster’s 1828 Dictionary, which defines terms as they were understood around the time when our Constitutions were written, defines a Law as follows:

“LAW, n. 1. A rule, particularly an established or permanent rule, prescribed by the supreme power of a state to its subjects, for regulating their actions, particularly their social actions. Laws are imperative or mandatory, commanding what shall be done prohibitory, restraining from what is to be forborn ; or permissive, declaring what may be done without incurring a penalty. The laws which enjoin the duties of piety and morality, are prescribed by God and found in the Scriptures.”

In short, neither the Bureau of Environmental Protection Board nor the DEP has the power to make a Rule or Law that affects the whole state of Maine. Only the Legislature can make laws.

**24) Alliance with other states prohibited.** Article 1 Section 10 of the US Constitution says, “No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; ... No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, ... No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, ... enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State...” The US Congress has not given Maine and California consent to enter into any agreement with another state. So why on earth is Maine even considering entering into an alliance with California?

**25) Courts are bound by the Constitution and laws.** Before you think you can go to the Courts to get an order that will override the above, consider the US Constitution Article VI: “This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby ...”

In short, our Judges are bound by the US and State Constitutions, and are tasked with enforcing the laws as passed by the Legislature - not as passed at the whim of any other entity.

\*Temperature in Northern California rarely dips below 17 degrees F. Generally, Californians experience temperatures between 29 °F and 87 °F.

The weather in Northern California can range from damp to wet, with usually mild winters and hot, dry summers. Our wet season is generally October through April, with an annual temperature of 61.1oF and monthly temperatures ranging from 45.8oF in December to 75.4oF in July. California’s average low in January is 38 degrees F.

Sacramento's winter temperature is in the 50s during the day. At night, the temperature drops to the 30s or 40s.

In Maine, winter average temperatures range from 25°F in the far south to less than 15°F in the northern and interior portions of the state. The average low in Caribou in January is 3 degrees F.

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