

Townsend, Erle

From: Laura Clement <lauramclement@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 4:28 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am strongly opposed to proposed Rule 127-A vehicle sales mandate.

Electric vehicles are more expensive to buy and more expensive to repair on average than gas-powered vehicles.

Electric vehicles are also NOT zero-emissions. EVs actually create more emissions than gas-powered vehicles when they are produced, AND, they also cause emissions when they are charged (usually by burning fossil fuels).

EVs don't work as well in the cold. A study by the American Automobile Association found that at 20 degrees F, an electric vehicle can lose as much as 12% of its range. Turning the cabin heater increases the range lost up to 40%. Rural Mainers need dependable transportation, especially with our long winters and long commutes for goods and services.

Lithium batteries are a fire hazard.

And, unless you live in Portland, charging stations are virtually non-existent. Rural Mainers would be forced to charge their vehicles at home, but how does that happen when rural Mainers experience multiple power outages (sometimes for 1-3 days in summer AND winter) each year?

Furthermore, this rule will increase the cost of goods and services in Maine. Forcing service providers to switch to high cost, unreliable transportation will increase the cost of living, especially for rural Mainers.

As Governor Mills previously stated, we should not blindly follow California's lead.

Mainers are proud of their freedoms. And we should have FREEDOM of choice when it comes to buying a vehicle.

Thank you!