

Townsend, Erle

From: Ted Hunter <ehunter@championnetworks.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 4:03 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Cc: Cayting, Lynne A
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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Comment:

Adopting California standards for anything automotive has been an issue for people in Maine for decades.

Every resident of our state needs to have the freedom and ability to make choices for themselves regarding personal transportation.

I am a proponent of “green” in many situations. I have increased fuel economy of nearly every vehicle I have owned, participated in a news story back in 2005 with Beth Nagusky demonstrating how driving practices can result in a 90% increase in fuel economy, and was published as front page news in the Maine Sunday Telegram. I increased the fuel economy of a 1994 Camaro from 26mpg from the factory to 30mpg, while also lowering emissions and improving performance. Currently I am examining current the e-bike laws that hinder adoption of higher performance bikes on Maine trails by people who are “larger”.

My wife sells electric vehicles and hybrids, as well as standard vehicles and has noticed that many hybrid models actually cost more to operate due to Maine’s high electricity prices.

Legislation that limits consumer choice is (and has usually been), counter productive in achieving goals. For our elected or appointed representatives to pass legislation based upon financed surveys, special interest lobby efforts, election polls in their districts, or personal agenda is (and always has been), unethical and biased, despite many good intentions.

The people of Maine deserve the right to choose their vehicles and accompanying technology to best suit their lifestyles. I applaud recommendations and facts regarding the choices we have so we may make the best decisions for our families, friends, communities, state, and our country. Choosing to follow California with substantially different demographics is problematic at best and harmful to the citizens of Maine at worst. We need our Governor and others to step up and act in the best interest of Maine. This requires critical thinking skills, some logic, and situational awareness.

Thank you,

Ted Hunter
Technologist

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