

Office of the Governor
#1 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0001
January 6, 2017

RE: Support for Zero Emission Vehicles

Dear Governor LePage,

We, the undersigned, are writing to you today to express our support for smart and effective policies that will help put more zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) on the roads here in Maine. Cleaning up our cars means giving our residents cleaner air to breathe, putting money back in their pockets and supporting local high-quality jobs.

ZEVs drastically cut oil consumption and improve our national security while producing little to zero dangerous tailpipe emissions. Since the American Lung Association gave many cities in our region a failing or poor grade for our air quality in 2015, more ZEVs on the road means drastically improved air quality and less asthma attacks for our residents. Moreover, the average cost of fueling a car with electricity is significantly cheaper while being better for our health and environment. This means the money saved can be invested back into our communities and state.

Consumer demand for these vehicles is growing. In the first half of 2016, U.S. ZEV sales have increased about 20% over the first half of 2015. At the local level, we're committed to doing our part to accommodate this demand and accelerate ZEV adoption through a variety of programs such as growing our municipal ZEV fleets and installing public and workplace electric vehicle charging stations. Local programs coupled with state, regional and federal programs can go a long way towards accelerating the ZEV market. In particular, we look forward to working with your administration to achieve the goals of the Zero Emission Vehicle program, which calls for 65,000 ZEVs to be put on the road in Maine by 2025.

Thanks to Maine's adoption of this ZEV program, the future for electric vehicles in our state is bright – especially with the elimination of the travel loophole exemption that will require automakers to begin selling a growing percentage of ZEVs in our state and eight others starting in 2018. I urge you to support the California Air Resources Board to continue its strong ZEV policies that allow states like Maine to continue leading the way on clean cars.

Respectfully,

Mick Devin, State Representative, House District 90

Deane Rykerson, State Representative

Brian Hubbell, State Representative

Chuck Kruger, State Representative

Charlotte Warren, State Representative

Deane Rykerson, State Representative

Rebecca Millett, State Senator

Linda Sanborn, State Representative

Dave Miramant, State Senator

Martin Grohman, State Representative

Ben Chipman, State Senator

Sean Faircloth, City Councilor, Bangor

Ethan Strimling, Mayor of Portland

Chris Johnson, Former State Senator

Ryan Tipping-Spitz, State Representative

Sue Henderson, City Councilor, South Portland

cc: California Air Resources Board