

Townsend, Erle

From: Austin Theriault for Congress <info@austinformaine.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 1, 2024 4:42 PM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: Comment on Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program (Reposting)

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My name is Austin Theriault, and I strongly oppose the proposed rule that would mandate sales of electric vehicles in Maine.

I consider this heavy-handed government crackdown a threat to our safety, our economy, and to our working class's ability to survive in rural Maine. Just look at the recent storms when much of the state lost power. How many Mainers would have been in an even more dangerous position if this mandate had already been rammed through?

Mainers are able to buy electric cars right now if they want them. Some do, but many don't. Electric cars are expensive, so forcing Mainers to buy them will hit everyone right in the wallet.

Good ideas should not require force, and Mainers from all political stripes are opposing this mandate because they want to be able to choose for themselves what vehicles they drive.

I also can't believe that a board of unelected people feel that they have the power to even consider such a sweeping overhaul of the fabric of Maine life.

Please listen to the voice of Mainers from Fort Kent to Kittery and vote down this rule.

Thank you,

Austin Theriault