



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: MAINE RELAY 711

Rebecca Millett

50 Market St., Ste 1A PMB 162

South Portland, ME 04106

Residence: (207) 415-3770

Rebecca.Millett@legislature.maine.gov

January 26, 2024

Board of Environmental Protection

17 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0017

Re: Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program

Dear Board of Environmental Protection:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for the proposed Chapter 127-A: Advanced Clean Cars II Program rules. In light of recent extreme weather events that have devastated Maine's coastal and riverfront communities, it is clearly urgent that we act now to mitigate the worsening effects of climate change. This proposed program is a sensible way to achieve that goal.

We in Maine have positioned ourselves as leaders on climate and energy policy, and the proposed program will continue that tradition. It will reduce harmful emissions by as much as 75% and, contrary to what opponents have claimed, will also help Maine drivers save money on fuel and maintenance.

As you know, the program would require vehicle manufacturers to offer a gradually increasing percentage of zero-emission vehicles (electric vehicles, or EVs) for sale in Maine starting in model year 2028. These requirements will give Maine car buyers the *choice* to buy EVs, which are becoming more affordable and more attractive to Maine drivers.

There are a number of reasons that demand for EVs has grown and will continue to increase in the near future. EVs cost less to fuel and maintain than gas-powered vehicles, making it more affordable to own an EV over time, and the sticker price of new EVs is now much more comparable to that of new gas-powered vehicles. There are also additional federal and state incentives available to further support affordability of EVs.

At the same time, Maine's EV infrastructure is catching up with the need. Maine is in the top 10 states for public EV charging stations per capita, and we continue to prioritize investment in the public charging network.

As the auto industry shifts its focus to offering EVs, the Advanced Clean Cars II Program will ensure that the industry will make new, in-demand EVs available to Maine's new-car buyers instead of sending them to other states and leaving Maine consumers with limited options and reduced choice.

The combination of climate and economic benefits make this proposal a promising one for Maine people. I hope you will support it. Please feel welcome to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Millett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "R".

Rebecca Millett
State Representative