

## Breton, Mary B

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**From:** Jim Fernald <jim.fernal@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 2:29 PM  
**To:** DEP Rule Comments  
**Subject:** EV's and zero emission vehicles

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BEP,

I encourage you in not making any changes in the number of EV Vehicles in the State of Maine. I am a funeral director in Bangor and just recently signed a contract for a new vehicle to transport deceased remains. This is a basic Pacifica Chrysler Van taking the place of a Dodge Caravan. Auto manufacturers have either stopped completely or is limiting the number of vehicles they make. In our case Dodge will no longer make the Caravan which we own 4. We use them to transport remains to the Medical Examiners Office and back - New England Donor services for organ donation and the such. The newer van is \$20,000 more than what we have paid in the past. Because the necessity of getting remains as soon as we can we cannot wait around to charge the battery. We did request a increase in what we are paid by the ME Office this year and was declined through the appropriations committee. Our fees paid have not been increased for 10 years by the state. By having restrictions and quotas on vehicles in the state will only increase pricing. It is expensive for a business - but I cannot imagine being middle income citizen of the state with all these increases. I also believe that there isn't enough charging stations in the state to make this a reality.

I also have lived in California and worked as an engineer there. Many of the environmental issues and rules in California was due to the amount of people who drive and the smog build up in many of the mountainous regions around the cities. We do not have the problem in Maine. Most of the pollution in the air come from other states like New York and Mass and is blown into our state by prevailing Southwesterlies. Lets target these states first before we make any changes in Maine.

I strongly encourage Not to make any changes in limiting the amount of gas vehicles to be sold in Maine.

Many Thanks in hering my testimony.

Jim Fernald