

Breton, Mary B

From: Robert Leathers <robertleathers@me.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 26, 2023 8:23 AM
To: DEP Rule Comments
Subject: No Commiefornia rules for Maine!

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My name is Robert Leathers and I am a long time Brewer resident.

It is impossible for Maine legislators too honestly believe the attack on Gas powered vehicles is in the best interest of Maine people. Perhaps if you had tunnel vision and only saw Maine as Portland and Augusta you could envision a utopia of magical public mass transit systems that accommodated the needs of every one in the city and miraculously do this on our overstressed electric grid. However, in the real world where Maine voters live, not apparently politicians, travel to and from work, grocery stores and doctor appointments are several miles through rural country where electric buses do not, nor never will exist. Even smaller cities like mine can not accommodate its citizenry with sufficient public transportation so all people can get where they need to go at the time they need to get there.

Maine people need to be able to operate their own transportation, affordably and be able to do it when they need to go. Electric vehicles are inefficient methods of transportation for those who commute long distances, or are already struggling to pay the outrageous electric bills we have seen increase under this administration. Farmers can not effectively manage their crops and livestock with “electric tractors” that need hours of charging that frankly, farmers don’t have time for. Maine has tragically lost several of our fishermen to the Atlantic and would create an even more dangerous situation by having a lobster boat waiting for an electric charging station to some how come out to a stranded vessel for an 8-10 hour charge. I respectfully request that this thinking of eliminating our gas vehicles be done away with and the time we pay our representatives for be used to focus on real Maine issues, such as lowering electric bills, stopping the flow of deadly drugs throughout our State, lowering taxes, getting more jobs that pay well to move to our state, getting the 41% of Mainers who can work but don’t back in the work force, reducing the cost of Government, and getting the education system back on track to teach reading, writing and arithmetic so our test scores don’t mimic the lowest in the nation.

Respectfully,

Robert Leathers