

131st MAINE SENATE

3 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

Peter Lyford Senator, District 10

August 2023

Maine Bureau of Environmental Protection 17 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

Chair Lessard and respective members of the Maine Bureau of Environmental Protection,

I am Senator Peter Lyford and I represent Senate District 10, which includes the towns of Bucksport, Dedham, Otis, Bradley, Brewer, Carmel, Clifton, Eddington, Hampden, Holden, Newburgh, and Orrington. I am writing in strong opposition to the California Advance Clean Truck Regulation (ACT) that Maine is considering adopting.

When you think of Maine, you think of farming, fishing, and pockets of rural communities all throughout the state. A strong and vast population of elderly natives of Maine who are happy with the lives they live. Our state is not California. In fact it's far from it, not only culturally and financially, but also geographically. We should not be pushing these regulations on the people of our state. Our state's deep involvement in the farming, fishing, logging, and lobstering industries puts us at a disadvantage with these regulations, one that could potentially harm large portions of our population economically.

Another significant issue with this regulation is the price of these electric vehicles. We don't have the wealth here in Maine that California does. It would be putting a burden on our state to fund this program. And Maine taxpayers would be the most affected. Investing in such ambitious regulations, ones that our state is not even remotely suited to accommodate infrastructurally, all the while shifting some of our core state industries into unexplored territory, will most likely have a very negative economic effect. The risk is not worth the reward. Maybe someday it will be, but as of now, our state is not in a position to take on such aggressive change.

Sincerely,

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Peter Lyford State Senator