

UNITED STATES CLIMATE ALLIANCE

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

The Honorable Heidi King
Deputy Administrator
National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler
Acting Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

The Honorable William Wehrum
Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and
Radiation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

26 October 2018

Dear Secretary Chao, Acting Administrator Wheeler, Deputy Administrator King, and Assistant Administrator Wehrum:

I write today on behalf of the U.S. Climate Alliance – a bipartisan coalition of 17 governors representing 40 percent of the U.S. population - to strongly oppose the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) titled “The Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule for Model Years 2021-2026 Passenger Cars and Light Trucks.” The U.S. Climate Alliance resolutely supports the 18 jurisdictions representing 140 million Americans that are suing to defend existing standards for fuel-efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions. The Alliance further supports preserving state flexibility to adopt standards more protective than the federal standards. The existing standards are producing the cleanest and safest vehicles we have ever had—all while addressing the largest source of climate pollution in the United States.

The United States continues to need strong clean car standards that reduce vehicle pollution and improve efficiency to protect our health, environment and climate, while strengthening U.S. manufacturing competitiveness and creating American jobs. The Alliance opposes this effort by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to weaken these standards, as it will not only cost our residents more at the pump, but hurt

children, senior citizens and people living with respiratory illness. It will limit the ability of Alliance states to meet their own emission reduction targets and take crucial climate action.

Recognizing that climate change presents a serious threat to our environment, residents, communities, and economy, the Alliance remains committed to meeting its share of the U.S. emissions reduction contribution to the Paris Agreement. This proposal to roll back the standards undermines one of the country's best climate programs and constitutes an unwarranted attack on consumers, our environment, our health, and longstanding tenets of cooperative federalism enshrined in the Clean Air Act. We urge you to withdraw the proposal.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Cerqueira', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Julie Cerqueira
Executive Director
U.S. Climate Alliance

US Climate Alliance

California | Colorado | Connecticut | Delaware | Hawaii | Maryland | Massachusetts | Minnesota |
New Jersey | New York | North Carolina | Oregon | Puerto Rico | Rhode Island | Vermont | Virginia |
Washington