

September 13, 2023

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker McCarthy and Minority Leader Jeffries,

Our organizations represent a wide array of businesses throughout the energy, agricultural, and transportation sectors that provide products supporting countless Americans in their everyday lives. We write today to express our strong support for H.R. 1435, *The Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act*, which will be considered on the floor of the House of Representatives this week.

We are committed to reducing the carbon intensity of transportation through competition and innovation that protects consumer choice and American energy security. Unfortunately, some state governments led by California have chosen policies that do the exact opposite and will be less effective than alternative, technology-neutral approaches to achieving carbon reduction goals. Through the Advanced Clean Cars II (ACCII) regulations, California is mandating a single technology (electric vehicles (EVs)) and banning the sale of new internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles. This will effectively eliminate technological innovation and take choices away from American consumers.

If the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grants California a Clean Air Act waiver for ACCII, families nationwide will be left with fewer and more expensive choices for their new vehicle purchases. Seventeen states and the District of Columbia already follow California's vehicle standards, representing nearly 40 percent of the national auto market. Diminishing consumer choice would severely impact our industries and their ability to develop technologies that improve the transportation emissions profile, while promoting energy security. Making political decisions now that determine what technologies must be pursued to achieve our carbon reduction goals will artificially stunt research in alternatives like liquid fuels, thereby cutting off potential innovations that could be more effective than an ICE ban. We may miss valuable scientific achievements if we ban the further development and improvement of some technologies.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) recently acknowledged the important role that biofuels can play in reducing emissions. Advanced biofuels now constitute more than half of the diesel supply in California, allowing over-the-road transportation to dramatically reduce carbon emissions. Between 2011 and 2019, renewable diesel and biodiesel removed more than 18 million tons of carbon dioxide in California alone.

American-made liquid fuels, both conventional and renewable, are critical in not only meeting energy demand, but contributing to a lower emissions future. According to EPA, since 1970 common pollutants from new passenger vehicles are down 99% and the air is cleaner despite an increase in the average miles traveled and a 20% increase in horsepower.¹ These improvements were made possible by technological innovation in American agriculture, refining, vehicle production, and countless other areas along the transportation supply chain. Revolutionary advancements like improved crop yield, sustainable farming practices, and increased manufacturing efficiency will further reduce the carbon intensity of transportation without sacrificing cost or convenience. There are even more future improvements that can be accomplished through continued research and investment in liquid fuels and ICEs. Such improvements are the only way to reduce carbon in the existing vehicle fleet – an important goal which will be hindered by banning ICE vehicles.

Our industries have helped build America's energy security, making us less dependent upon foreign nations. Policies should support American-made clean energy innovations that have driven down greenhouse gas emissions, like ethanol, biodiesel, and renewable diesel. We should not be erasing that progress by increasing our reliance on foreign regimes that are not friendly to the United States.

The Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act preserves the opportunity for consumers to benefit from competitors using different vehicle technologies and fuels to reduce vehicle emissions. This legislation simply ensures that one state cannot singlehandedly drive consumer choice across the country. Doing so encourages a competitive, technology-neutral approach to reducing the carbon intensity of transportation.

American consumers should have the choice to purchase a vehicle that supports their families' needs. Whether a vehicle is powered by petroleum fuels, biofuels, hydrogen, natural gas, electricity, or any other fuel type, a family should have the final say on what vehicle fits their lifestyle. This allows all fuel and vehicle technologies to compete on how they can best contribute to a cleaner, more efficient transportation sector.

Thank you for your consideration of H.R. 1435 and we encourage you to support the legislation's final passage.

Sincerely,

¹ [History of Reducing Air Pollution from Transportation in the United States,
https://www.epa.gov/transportation-air-pollution-and-climate-change/history-reducing-air-pollution-transportation.](https://www.epa.gov/transportation-air-pollution-and-climate-change/history-reducing-air-pollution-transportation)

National Organizations

Agricultural Retailers Association
American Exploration & Production Council
American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers
American Petroleum Institute
Energy Marketers of America
National Association of Convenience Stores
National Association of Truck Stop Operators
Society of Independent Gasoline Marketers of America
Specialty Equipment Market Association

State Organizations

Petroleum & Convenience Marketers of Alabama
Alaska Fuel Storage and Handlers Alliance
Arizona Petroleum Marketers Association
Arkansas Oil Marketers Association, Inc.
California Fuels & Convenience Alliance
Colorado Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association
Connecticut Energy Marketers Association
Florida Petroleum Marketers Association, Inc.
Georgia Oilmen's Association
Hawaii Energy Marketers Association
Idaho Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association
Illinois Corn Growers Association
Illinois Fuel & Retail Association
Indiana Corn Growers Association
Indiana Food & Fuel Association
Indiana Soybean Alliance
FUELlowa
Fuel True: Independent Energy and Convenience of Kansas
Kansas Corn Growers Association
Renew Kansas Biofuels Association
Kentucky Corn Growers Association
Kentucky Petroleum Marketers Association
Louisiana Oil Marketers and Convenience Store Association
Maine Energy Marketers Association
Michigan Corn Growers Association
Michigan Petroleum Association / Michigan Association of Convenience Stores
Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors' Association
Missouri Corn Growers Association
Fueling Minnesota
Mississippi Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Stores Association
Missouri Petroleum & Convenience Association

Montana Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association
Nebraska Corn Growers Association
Nebraska Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association
Nevada Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association
New England Convenience Store & Energy Marketers Association
Fuel Merchants Association of New Jersey
New Mexico Petroleum Marketers Association
Empire State Energy Association, Inc.
North Carolina Petroleum & Convenience Marketers
North Dakota Petroleum Council
North Dakota Petroleum Marketers Association
Montana Petroleum Association
Ohio Energy & Convenience Association
Oklahoma Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association
Oregon Fuels Association
Pennsylvania Petroleum Association
Energy Marketers Association of Rhode Island
South Carolina Convenience & Petroleum Marketers Association
South Dakota Petroleum & Propane Marketers Association
Tennessee Fuel and Convenience Store Association
Texas Food & Fuel Association
Texas Oil & Gas Association
Utah Petroleum Association
Utah Petroleum Marketers & Retailers Association
Vermont Fuel Dealers Association
Virginia Petroleum & Convenience Marketers Association
Washington Independent Energy Distributors
West Virginia Oil Marketers & Grocers Association
Western Petroleum Marketers Association
Western State Petroleum Association
Wisconsin Fuel and Retail Association
Petroleum Association of Wyoming
Wyoming Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association