

# Lea Sanders

This has to be one of the dumbest things I've ever heard of! There are many people who cannot afford an electric vehicle or want an electric vehicle. I pull a trailer. I would not even consider an electric vehicle to pull a trailer. The batteries are hugely expensive! Democrats love to issue mandates, whether it involves useless masks, COVID-19 vaccines, or the car you purchase. This week, the far-left states of California, Massachusetts and Washington issued mandates requiring the purchase of electric vehicles.

In all these states, unless a hefty fine is paid, automakers will be forbidden from selling gasoline powered vehicles by 2035. As usual, the trendsetter in the climate craziness is always California. In 2019, Washington and Massachusetts passed legislation to follow whatever guidelines are enacted by the California Air Resources Board.

The short-term goals for California will be for all 35% of all new vehicles sales to be "zero emissions" by 2026, rising to 68% in 2030. According to former Trump Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrator Andrew Wheeler, these goals are unworkable. He believes California "can't get to 35% EVs by 2026 let alone 68% by 2030." The impracticability of these standards is no concern for the liberal state leaders, they just want the positive press for taking climate change action. In fact, Governor Jay Inslee (D-WA) wants his state to ban gasoline powered vehicles by 2030. He claims that such moves are a "critical milestone in our climate fight." This is just another of our governor's many mistakes. He just keeps stepping in it.

For liberal Democrats, the "climate fight" means that anything related to fossil fuels is evil. It is one reason Biden Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm was almost giddy when gasoline prices started rising this summer. She said it made a "very compelling case" for consumers to buy electric vehicles. The high gasoline prices "won't affect you" if you own an electric vehicle.

So, according to progressives like Granholm, just buy an electric vehicle for goodness sake. Consumers will help with the "climate fight" and avoid those high gasoline prices.

Unfortunately, Democrats love spouting their platitudes, but they have little regard for the economic conditions facing Americans. In the midst of raging inflation, Democrats are trying to force Americans to buy electric vehicles, which cost, on average, \$66,000. This high cost is one reason why, even in California, only 12% of the vehicles that are currently in use are electric.

To mitigate these exorbitant costs and encourage more Americans to abandon their "addiction" to fossil fuels, \$370 billion in climate change initiatives and a \$7,500 electric vehicle tax credit was included in the "Inflation Reduction Act." This will apply only for electric vehicles "assembled" in North America.

Washington! get a brain! Stop this stupidity!