

# Matthew Smith

To whom it may concern:

I can appreciate the effort to reduce automotive emissions in our great state of New Mexico. However, the sweeping nature of the proposed law is impractical and unnecessarily limits choice, while simultaneously hampering the ability to reduce greenhouse gases, and is outright impractical for New Mexicans.

Blindly adopting California legislature hamstring New Mexico government. It empowers another governing body to adopt changes without consent or input from New Mexico lawmakers. It is evident that the authors of these proposed changes are disinterested maintaining the voice of the New Mexican people. New Mexicans, including myself tout their independent culture, which includes the ability for choice of our vehicles that are driven. Passage of such legislature diminishes the rule making ability as well as culture. For any changes in New Mexico emission standards, I request that the Environmental Improvement Board consist solely of elected officials in a manner that represents all members of the New Mexico population. The approach of appointed officials is a true indicator that these proposed changes are political in nature, rather than representative. This is unacceptable.

I request an implementation plan prior to passage of such rules. As part of the public comment process, the Environmental Improvement Board needs to think through the logistics of implementation. Many New Mexican residents are well below the poverty line, some without utilities, and are simply unable to purchase an electric vehicle, which is currently a premium tier in automotive market. Many New Mexican communities are remote with a large distance between them. There are inadequate provisions for electric vehicles in the state. Prior to adoption, the Environmental Improvement Board needs to provide a logistical approach to the New Mexican people. The approach shall not further increase taxes for the New Mexican people. To me, the proposed rules are indicative of an upper class pipe dream, where everyone has the economic means of the authors. The lazy lack of consideration for socioeconomic factors and planned implementation will backfire in reducing emissions. Very few New Mexicans are able to purchase and practically use an electric vehicle daily. This will result in a decrease in newer, more fuel efficient vehicles on New Mexican roads. Our statewide community will simply continue to drive their older, less efficient internal combustion vehicles.

I request the removal of vehicles be in compliance of California Emissions rules altogether. There are many vehicles that are EPA approved, but not CARB approved. Many of which are small displacement, single cylinder scooters and motorcycles. I personally have multiple vehicles. One of which gets 15 MPG, and the other gets 84 MPG. The vehicle that gets 15 MPG has California Emissions, and the one that gets 84 MPG is not CARB approved. Many of these non-CARB approved vehicles are suitable for urban commuting, take up less space, and are effective means of transportation. If California Emissions rules remain integral to the proposed updates, I request a written exemption for two-wheeled vehicles, including mopeds, scooters, and motorcycles.

Part of the New Mexican culture is to use what is available for as long as possible. If California Emissions rule remain integral to the proposed updates, I request removal of the requirement for

motor vehicle engines be CARB compliant. Many of the vehicles on the road are considerably aged and still used. New Mexicans should be granted the ability to procure and install a new engine without additional restrictions as they determine to be necessary. This approach still enables reduction in greenhouse gases, as a new engine operates more efficiently. It also facilitates cleaner air, since new engines in old vehicles reduce the likelihood of burning additional hydrocarbons such as oil.

The Environmental Improvement Board has not provided the New Mexican people with proper due diligence to enact these sweeping changes, which affect everyday life for every New Mexican. The Board has failed the New Mexican people by failing to provide a solution that works for its state. I recommend dissolution of the Environmental Improvement Board altogether, or at the minimum, an elected body of officials to adequately represent New Mexicans. The Advanced Clean Cars and Advanced Clean Trucks Rules do not address the needs of the New Mexican people. The current environmental rules are adequate as-is. If new rules are to be enacted, many changes are requested to suit the great state of New Mexico.

Respectfully,  
Matthew Smith