

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 17, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood  
Secretary  
Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Lisa Jackson  
Administrator  
Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Secretary LaHood and Administrator Jackson:

We are writing to express our support for your efforts to establish a coordinated national program for fuel economy and emissions standards for model year 2017 to 2025 cars, light trucks, and SUVs. The proposed regulations will increase nationwide fleetwide fuel economy to 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025. The standards will implement Federal law in a manner that provides industry with certainty, saves consumers billions of dollars at the pump, reduces our dependence on oil, and improves the health of American communities.

These proposed regulations implement the policies set forth in the 2007 Ten in Ten Fuel Economy Act (Title I of Public Law 110-140) in a manner supported by many automotive manufacturers, as well as the labor and environmental community. Industry groups such as the National Association of Manufacturers praised the agreement on the proposed standards as a “positive step.” The regulatory certainty created by this proposal, which unifies state and Federal regulations into a single regime, will help automakers to design and build advanced technology vehicles and compete in an increasingly global marketplace. In addition, the “mid-term” review for the model year 2022-2025 standards will require your agencies to evaluate whether the stringency required in the second phase of the program is still appropriate or whether the standards should be revised upwards or downwards.

The proposed standards have broad industry support, but they will also reduce petroleum use and pollution on an aggressive schedule, as Congress required in the 2007 statute. As the latest Energy Information Administration’s Annual Energy Outlook has concluded, increases in fuel economy have contributed to our declining dependence on oil imports.

Further progress will be made with the implementation of the proposed standards, which taken together with the recently adopted standards for model years 2012 to 2016, will remove the need for as much as 3.8 million barrels of petroleum per day by 2030. Consumers will save thousands of dollars at the pump over the lifetime of their vehicles, and both our economy and our security will be less dependent on imported oil.

We appreciate your efforts to achieve your statutory mandates of reducing oil use and pollution in a manner that will allow the automobile industry to grow and thrive. We encourage you to continue working with stakeholders to attain the critical national objectives of reduced pollution, improved energy security, and lower consumer gasoline costs while reducing compliance costs.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



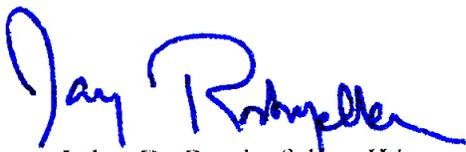
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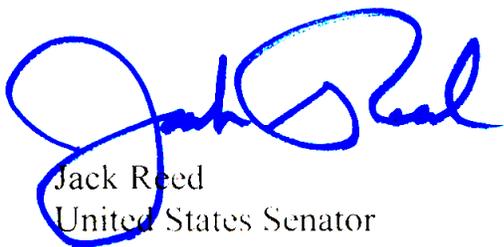
  
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