

Office of the Governor
State Capitol
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

November 15, 2016

RE: Support for Zero Emission Vehicles

Dear Governor Malloy,

We, the undersigned, are writing to you today to express our support for smart and effective policies that will help put more zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) on the roads here in Connecticut. Cleaning up our cars means giving our residents cleaner air to breathe, putting money back in their pockets and supporting local high-quality jobs.

ZEVs drastically cut oil consumption and improve our national security while producing little to zero dangerous tailpipe emissions. Since the American Lung Association gave many cities in our region a failing or poor grade for our air quality in 2015, more ZEVs on the road means drastically improved air quality and fewer asthma attacks for our residents. Moreover, the average cost of fueling a car with electricity is significantly cheaper while being better for our health and environment. This means the money saved can be invested back into our communities and state.

Consumer demand for these vehicles is growing. In the first half of 2016, U.S. ZEV sales have increased about 20% over the first half of 2015. At the local level, we're committed to doing our part to accommodate this demand and accelerate ZEV adoption through a variety of programs such as growing our municipal ZEV fleets and installing public and workplace electric vehicle charging stations. Local programs coupled with state, regional and federal programs can go a long way towards accelerating the ZEV market. In particular, we look forward to working with your administration to achieve the goals of the Zero Emission Vehicle program, which calls for 154,000 ZEVs to be put on the road in Connecticut by 2025.

Thanks to Connecticut's adoption of this ZEV program, the future for electric vehicles in our state is bright – especially with the elimination of the travel loophole exemption that will require automakers to begin selling a growing percentage of ZEVs in our state and eight others starting in 2018. We urge you to support the California Air Resources Board to continue its strong ZEV policies that allow states like Connecticut to continue leading the way on clean cars.

Respectfully,

Joseph Ganim
Mayor, City of Bridgeport

David Martin
Mayor, City of Stamford

Toni Harp
Mayor, City of New Haven

Harry W. Rilling
Mayor, City of Norwalk

cc: California Air Resources Board

Erin Stewart
Mayor, City of New Britain

Shari Cantor
Mayor, City of West Hartford

Edward M. O'Brien
Mayor, City of West Haven

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Mayor, Town of Danbury

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Representative Town Meeting, Town of Fairfield

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Chair, Citizen's Green Committee
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