

Office of the Governor  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

November 15, 2016

RE: Support for Zero Emission Vehicles

Dear Governor Raimondo,

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 Rhode Island. 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 less 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 43,000 ZEVs to be put on the road in Rhode Island by 2025.

Thanks to Rhode Island'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. I urge you to support the California Air Resources Board to continue its strong ZEV policies that allow states like Rhode Island to continue leading the way on clean cars.

Respectfully,

Jorge Elorza  
Mayor, City of Providence

Margaret Healy  
Town Council, City of South Kingstown\*

Abel Collins  
Town Council, City of South Kingstown\*

Bryant Da Cruz

Town Council, City of South Kingstown\*

Liz Gledhill

Town Council, City of South Kingstown\*

Joe Viele

Town Council, City of South Kingstown\*

cc: California Air Resources Board

\*Additional Separate Letter Attached