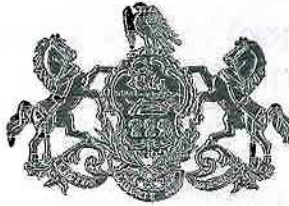


38TH DISTRICT  
**JIM FERLO**

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## Senate of Pennsylvania

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LUPUS CAUCUS, MEMBER

April 10, 2006

Environmental Quality Board  
Rachel Carson State Office Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
400 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-2301

Dear Board Members,

I am writing to you to voice my most ardent support for the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles Program alignment with the California standards.

In Southwestern Pennsylvania, the EPA has determined that we are a non-attainment region. Setting the bar lower than the reasonable level required by California standards translates into worse air pollution, which means more kids with asthma, more days in the hospital for our seniors, and lower quality of life for us all. It is with this frame of reference that I write to urge you to support rulemaking that adopts California standards rather than settling for second-best.

Senate Bill 1025, passed over my vocal objections, would devalue the health of my constituents and families throughout the Commonwealth. Proponents of this bill made trivial arguments about how Pennsylvania would be giving up jurisdiction to California, when nothing could be further from the truth, as the work by the EQB attests. Arguments that the rulemaking would cause price increases for automobiles, ignores that market influence on price far outweighs the regulatory influence. Indeed, many of the cars sold in California are less expensive there than their counterparts sold in Pennsylvania.

So much of the argument against the proposed rulemaking is the proverbial smoke and mirrors. I would urge the Environmental Quality Board to vote in favor of adopting the California standards in much the same way I urged my Senate colleagues to vote against Senate Bill 1025, by asking a simple question: what type of environmental legacy and environment do we want to leave our families, our loved ones, our children, our communities, the constituents whom we were elected to represent?

I applaud the EQB for putting Pennsylvania on the right track to a less polluted, healthier environment with its proposed rulemaking and I urge the Board Members to vote to follow through on that initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Ferlo".

Jim Ferlo  
State Senator  
38<sup>th</sup> District

