



Testimony in Support of Implementation of the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles Program

My name is Arthur Stamoulis. I live in Philadelphia with my wife and our fourteen-month-old daughter. My family fully supports the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles Program and urges that it be implemented as quickly as it can be.

Air Quality Benefits

There are days each year when the air quality in Philadelphia is so bad that the government actually warns the public to limit outdoor activities. It is an outrage that in this day-and-age simply going outside and breathing should be dangerous to my family's health.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency predicts that even when its recent air quality rules governing emissions from coal-fired power plants are fully in effect a decade from now, Philadelphia still will not be meeting basic air quality standards. The state needs to be doing everything it can to ensure that all people have the right to breathe clean, healthy air. The so-called "Cal LEV" requirements of the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles Program are an important tool for improving air quality and should remain a key part of the state's pollution-reduction strategy.

My family believes the costs associated with the Clean Vehicles Program are well worth the public health benefits, even if they were not recuperated. It is my understanding, however, that the program is expected to help improve the fuel economy of most vehicles, and that most motorists will actually save money as a result the program. This is a win-win situation for public health and for consumers. I can think of no other large-scale program to reduce smog pollution that actually benefits consumers in this way.

Global Warming Benefits

My family is also very concerned about global warming. With the ice caps melting, flowers blooming earlier than ever before, and the record high temperatures experienced in recent years, the problem seems much more pressing that most in government are willing to acknowledge.

Last year, the national science academies of eleven different countries, including the United States, Britain, China and Brazil, all stated "there is now strong evidence that significant global warming is occurring." A study that appeared in the journal *Science* that looked at over 900 peer-reviewed scientific papers on climate change found that not one questioned the consensus that pollution from human activities is causing global warming.

In the absence of federal leadership on this issue, it is the responsibility of state governments to act. The Clean Vehicles Program is expected to reduce global warming pollution from passenger vehicles by approximately 30%. This is a huge step forward in reducing America's global warming emissions, particularly if other states implement similar standards.

The threat that global warming poses in terms of extreme weather, insurance prices, disease spread and crop failure cannot be taken lightly. The Clean Vehicles Program should move forward with the global warming emission reduction standards firmly in place.

Implementation Timeline

In regards to the specific proposal to move the implementation date for the program back by two years, I would like to see Clean Vehicles Program implemented as soon as possible. If two years from now is the earliest manufacturers can begin meeting the standards, so be it. I believe the Clean Vehicles Program should have already been implemented and urge that delays be minimized to the greatest extent possible from here on out.

Thank you for considering my comments.

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