

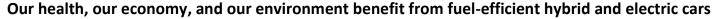
Protect Clean Transportation Choices for Mainers

LD 1806 will tax efficient cars and trucks and punish Mainers who want to spend less on fuel

We all benefit from less-polluting cars and trucks – the air is cleaner, our health is better, and we're one step closer to energy independence

Maine drivers shouldn't be taxed for choosing fuel-efficient vehicles that reduce gasoline imports and air pollution while helping Maine's economy

- Maine is the most oil dependent state in the nation. This dependence is costly for families, businesses, and our overall economy.
- Pollution from cars and trucks generates the largest share of carbon pollution in Maine - about 40%.¹
- In 2015, Mainers spent \$500 million on medical costs caused by emissions from conventional gas-powered vehicles.²
- LD 1806 taxes efficient cars that let Mainers control their transportation expenses by reducing fuel and maintenance costs; use locally-produced energy; and keep more consumer money here to invest in our local economy.
- Out-of-state interest groups with ties to the oil industry are pushing bills like
 this that undermine fuel-efficient vehicles in many states, trying to prevent Americans from using less gasoline.



- Mainers who drive electric-charged cars make significant contributions to the state budget in sales and excise taxes
 due to the higher purchase price of these cars.
- Electric vehicle charging can lower electricity grid costs and benefit all ratepayers.
- Here in Maine, electric cars produce 75% less climate changing pollution than conventional gas-powered vehicles, based on our current energy mix.³

LD 1806 does almost nothing to solve Maine's transportation funding problems

- Transportation funding shortfalls have far more to do with Maine's static gas tax than electric cars and fuel-efficient hybrids, which make up only 1% of cars in Maine.
- LD 1806 is a punitive proposal, designed to protect oil industry interests and distract lawmakers from real solutions to the need for sustainable transportation funding.
- Maine should consider sustainable, fair, and comprehensive funding mechanisms to increase revenue for transportation-sector investments and support citizens' access to more efficient and less polluting transportation.
 LD 1806 fails to accomplish any of those objectives.

Reject new taxes on fuel-efficient vehicles because they will:

- Penalize Mainers for choosing fuel-efficient vehicles, without meaningfully increasing transportation funding.
- Result in clean vehicle drivers paying more than the annual gas tax contributions of conventional vehicle drivers.

Reject LD 1806: Preserve Clean Transportation Choices

For more information, please contact Kathleen Meil, (207) 236-6470, kmeil@acadiacenter.org, Dylan Voorhees, (207) 430-0112, dvoorhees@nrcm.org or Sophie Janeway, (207) 430-0142, sjaneway@nrcm.org

² http://www.lung.org/local-content/california/documents/2016zeroemissions.pdf

http://www.maine.gov/dep/sustainability/climate/reducing-impacts.html

http://2030.acadiacenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Acadia-Center-EnergyVision-2030-Transportation.pdf



Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition

is a partnership of 34 environmental, conservation and public health organizations representing over 100,000 members who want to protect the good health, good jobs and quality of life that our environment provides.

We are counting on Maine policymakers to take the important steps needed to make wise use of Maine's extraordinary environment so Maine people and Maine communities can thrive

Acadia Center Maine People's Alliance

Appalachian Mountain Club Maine Public Health Association

Atlantic Salmon Federation Maine Rivers

Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Conservation Law Foundation

Maine Wilderness Guides

Organization

Environmental Health Strategy Center MidCoast Conservancy

Environment Maine Natural Resources Council of Maine

Friends of Casco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility

Islesboro Island Trust Maine Chapter

Maine Association of RESTORE: The North Woods

Conservation Commissions Sierra Club, Maine Chapter

Maine Audubon Southern Maine Conservation

Maine Center for Economic Policy Collaborative

Maine Conservation Alliance The Ocean Conservancy

Maine Council of Churches The Trust for Public Land

Maine Council of Trout Unlimited The Wilderness Society

Maine Interfaith Power & Light Toxics Action Center

Maine Lakes Society Upstream

Maine Organic Farmers and 350 Maine

Gardeners Association