



September 17, 2024

Dear Representative:

The undersigned health organizations oppose H.J. Res 136, which would block the new standards finalized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reduce air and climate pollution from future new cars and light trucks. We strongly urge you to vote no when the measure is called for a vote.

Health professionals, healthcare systems and public health advocates recognize the importance of reducing pollution from vehicles. The transportation sector is a leading source of both air and climate pollution. Emissions from vehicles is linked with all-cause, circulatory, ischemic heart disease and lung cancer mortality; asthma onset in both children and adults; and acute lower respiratory infections in children.¹ Reducing emissions from motor vehicles will lead to health benefits, particularly for communities that live near major roadways. It will also limit the emissions that are causing climate change, which is leading to excessive heat waves, more volatile weather patterns and frequent and intense wildfires.

EPA estimates that the rule finalized in March 2024 will reduce 7.2 billion metric tons of carbon pollution, 8,700 tons of particle pollution, 36,000 tons of nitrogen oxides (NOx) and 15,000 tons of volatile organic compounds. In addition, under the rule, new gasoline-powered cars will be less polluting by requiring the use of readily available and cost-effective technology to reduce particulate matter emissions.

The undersigned health organizations applaud this progress and call on Congress to safeguard our communities from vehicle pollution. We urge you to oppose H.J. Res 136 and any efforts to block lifesaving measures to reduce pollution.

Sincerely,

Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
Allergy & Asthma Network
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
American Lung Association
American Public Health Association
American Thoracic Society
Climate Psychiatry Alliance

Health Care Without Harm
Medical Students for a Sustainable Future
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
Oncology Advocates United for Climate and Health - International
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Public Health Institute

¹Health Effects Institute. Special Report 23. A Special Report of the HEI Panel on the Health Effects of Long-Term Exposure to Traffic-Related Air Pollution June 2022. <https://www.healtheffects.org/publication/systematic-review-and-meta-analysis-selected-health-effects-long-term-exposure-traffic>