

December 7, 2017

United States Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto  
204 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto:

Emissions from cars and trucks continues to be one of the largest sources of pollution in Nevada. This pollution both harms our health and is a significant contributor to climate change. Since 2012, the U.S. Federal Government has taken bold steps to reduce transportation pollution by setting new clean car standards.

These standards are already benefiting Nevada and our nation in the following ways:

- **Jobs and the Economy:** The current standards have been a major driver of innovation in the automotive industry and support 288,000 engineering and manufacturing jobs in 48 states. Nevada's economy has been transformed by the Tesla Gigafactory, which is providing thousands of high-paying local jobs to produce batteries for electric vehicles. Weakening these standards could threaten our competitiveness and jobs as the rest of the world moves forward with building more efficient vehicles.
- **Consumer Savings:** In Nevada, consumers have already saved \$290 million. By 2030, each household in Nevada will be \$3,050 richer. When compared to a typical vehicle on the road today, a new car buyer will save more than \$8,000 over the lifetime of a new 2025 vehicle<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, rolling back clean cars standards would especially hurt low-income and middle-income families, who spend a greater portion of their household budget on gas.
- **Public Health:** Reversing standards to clean up tailpipe pollution would needlessly worsen asthma symptoms for the 24 million Americans, including 6.3 million children, who suffer from asthma. This includes nearly 210,000 Nevadans with asthma.
- **Environment:** The two rounds of standards will reduce carbon pollution by as much as 470 million metric tons (MMT) in 2030. This is equivalent to shutting down 140 typical coal-fired power plants for an entire year. Climate change is already exacerbating Southern Nevada's extreme drought and pushing record breaking wildfires in Northern Nevada.

Auto manufacturers, industry groups, and corporate lobbyists are aggressively pushing to roll back cleaner cars standards. Even though automakers helped write these standards, they have changed their tune and are taking every advantage the Trump administration is offering to get out of their promise to the American people that they will make more fuel-efficient vehicles.

We represent a collection of health professionals, environmental advocates, businesses, non-profit organizations, experts in academia, faith leaders and elected officials calling upon you to oppose any regulatory, legislative, or administrative attempts to weaken fuel efficiency standards.

Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ucsusa.org/clean-vehicles/fuel-efficiency/fuel-economy-basics.html#.WXAHQYUpCEc>

Nevada State Senator Aaron Ford  
Nevada State Senator Pat Spearman  
Nevada State Senator Tick Segerblom  
Nevada State Assemblywoman Heidi Swank  
Nevada State Assemblyman Chris Brooks  
Clark County Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani  
Mayor John Lee, City of North Las Vegas  
Andy Maggi, Executive Director of the Nevada Conservation League  
Chris Roys, CSUN Student Body President at UNLV  
Professor Erica Tietjen, UNLV School of Public Policy and Leadership  
Dr. David Kreamer, UNLV Department of Geoscience  
Dr. Kathleen Lauckner  
Sabina Malik, Chair of UNLV Sustainability Council  
Joe Berg, President of UNLV Student Sustainability Council  
Alondra Regalado, Co-President of Scientista Foundation, UNLV Chapter  
Professor Michael Green, UNLV Department of History  
Geoconda Arguello-Kline, Secretary-Treasurer of Culinary Union Local 226  
Reverend Leonard Jackson, Faith Organizing Alliance  
Dr. Mary House, Mountaintop Faith Ministries  
Dr. Joanne Leovy, Family Practitioner and Chair of Citizens Climate Lobby Southern Nevada  
Rudy Zamora, Program Director for Chispa Nevada  
Jaina Moan, Executive Director of Friends of Gold Butte  
Beverly Schreiber, Organizing for Action Nevada  
Jerry Holliday, President of The Uplift Foundation of Nevada  
Erica Washington, State Director of Make it Work Nevada  
Mark Riffenburg, State Director for Defend Our Future  
Patrick Donnelly, Center for Biological Diversity  
Sondra Cosgrove, President of the League of Women Voters of Nevada  
Jarrett Clark, Outreach Coordinator for Clean Energy Project  
Annette Magnus, Executive Director of BattleBorn Progress  
Tyson Megown, State Director for NextGen Nevada  
Brian Beffort, Chapter Director for Sierra Club's Toiyabe Chapter  
Tom Polikalas, Nevada Representative for Southwest Energy Efficiency Project  
Vida Lin, President of the Asian Community Development Council  
Tom Padden, Protect Mount Charleston  
Alicia Contreras, Interim State Director for Mi Familia Vota  
Laura Beauregard, Registered Nurse