

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler  
Acting Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Secretary Chao and Acting Administrator Wheeler,

We write you today concerning an important issue facing American manufacturing, competitiveness, thousands of jobs in Ohio and nationwide, as well as public health and consumer protections—the Corporate Average Fuel Economy and Clean Car Standards.

We are concerned that your agencies have proposed to roll back clean car and fuel economy standards by freezing the clean car and fuel economy standards for all passenger vehicles at model year 2020 levels through model year 2026. In just two years, automakers could abandon new investments in technologies that save fuel and reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

Ohio businesses, autoworkers, and engineers are currently building many of the best vehicles and technology in the world. Ohio jobs depend on America remaining the destination for domestic and global investment in leading fuel efficient and clean vehicle technology. Stepping away from leadership on fuel economy and emissions reduction could put Ohio businesses and jobs at risk and cede tomorrow's jobs to other nations. It would also mean dirtier air in our communities and less money in the pockets of Ohio families.

The current commonsense standards were developed with the agreement of car makers, states, labor, environmental and consumer advocates. These standards maintain a strong program that works for industry, saves consumers hundreds of billions of dollars, and reduces carbon pollution by nearly 6 billion tons—more than the total emissions of the United States in a year.

Here in Ohio, we built over 1.6 million cars, SUVs and pickup trucks in 2015, and over 70 percent of North American light vehicles are built within 500 miles of our state. A estimated 95,000 Ohioans work building these vehicles and the components and technology that goes into them, with the average salary of \$61,500 annually. A recent study found that nearly 30,000 Ohio workers are building technology that directly contributes to improving fuel economy and reducing emissions, while another found that 23 percent of firms involved in automotive components nationwide get all of their revenue from products that improve fuel economy.

A new car meeting the 2025 carbon pollution requirements will save consumers nearly \$4,000 compared to the average vehicle on the road today. Smart standards reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil, protect consumers from increasing gas prices, and save all drivers money at the pump—no matter what kind of vehicle they choose to drive. Reducing the cost of basic necessities is the right thing to do for all Ohioans.

Again, creating and maintaining high wage jobs, protecting families and businesses from the impacts of volatile gas prices, and protecting public health and the environment are key drivers in keeping the current standards. We urge you to sustain the current CAFE and clean car standards to sustain Ohio jobs in vehicle manufacturing and innovation and reduce fuel burdens for all Ohio families. We also

request that you reject any attempts to revoke states' authority to enforce vehicle emissions standards under Sections 209 and 177 of the Clean Air Act.

Thank you for your time and consideration into this request.

Sincerely,

Mayor Nan Whaley  
City of Dayton

Mayor Andrew Ginther  
City of Columbus

Mayor Kapszukiewicz  
City of Toledo

Mayor John Cranley  
City of Cincinnati

Mayor Dan Horrigan  
City of Akron

Mayor Tito Brown  
City of Youngstown

Mayor Scott Schertzer  
City of Marion

Mayor Tim DeGeeter  
City of Parma

Mayor Luke Feeney  
City of Chillicothe

Mayor Annette Blackwell  
City of Maple Heights

Mayor Steve Patterson  
City of Athens

Mayor Benjamin Kessler  
City of Bexley

Cc: The Honorable Sherrod Brown The Honorable Rob Portman