

Patricia O'Neil  
Wells  
LD 2261

Dear Honorable Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee,  
I am a resident of Wells and a member of Third Act Maine.

I am writing in strong opposition to LD 2261 "An Act Designating New Motor Vehicle Emissions Rules as Major Substantive Rules."

The climate crisis is not something that will occur in the future; it is happening now. We must act with urgency and LD 2261 will hinder the ability of the Board of Environmental Protection to do what it is charged with doing - protecting our environment.

As a resident of Wells, this past January I watched in helplessness as the ocean swept over seawalls, crushing sidewalks, filling streets with rocks and seaweed, and flooding my neighbors' homes and yards. We have seen the damage that climate change can do. We know that it will only get worse. Last year was the hottest year on record, and this year is likely to be hotter. Storms are only going to get more destructive.

We know what is causing climate change - our greenhouse gas emissions. Passing legislation that slows the adoption of zero emission cars and trucks is self-destructive, especially since 54% of our emissions in Maine are caused by transportation.

The work of the Board of Environmental Protection must remain nonpartisan. Do not politicize the process by adding a requirement of legislative approval. Let the professionals do the job they have been hired to do.

Thank you.  
Patricia O'Neil