

Zahra Reynolds
South Portland
LD 2261

I feel passionately about increasing the speed at which we adopt healthier choices for our climate and our communities, particularly as we see the effects of climate changes already on our coastlines. This bill should not be passed as it represents a step backward and a flagrant disregard for the ongoing processes that have already taken into account the preferences of Mainers.

For decades, Maine has followed a nonpartisan process through the Board of Environmental Protection (BEP) to adopt stronger emissions standards because we value clean air and healthy people. The year-long, thoughtful public health and environmental policy-making process currently underway has already incorporated input and comments from thousands of Mainers, including many legislators. Slowing the adoption of zero emission cars and trucks will hurt Maine people – ensuring new, cheaper EV models go to other states first, leaving us with what's left over: Dirtier and more expensive gas cars.