Congress of the United States
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100+ Members of Congress Call Upon EPA to Allow States to Tackle Global Warming

WASHINGTON, DC — Today Rep. Henry A. Waxman, Rep. Sherwood Boehlert, and a bipartisan group of Members of Congress called upon Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Stephen Johnson to allow states to move forward with new clean car standards to reduce global warming pollution. In total, 104 Members of Congress signed the letter.

"States are leading the way in tackling the most dangerous environmental threat we face. We strongly support the states' efforts to protect their citizens and their economies," said Rep. Waxman. "The only thing standing in the way of this landmark state effort is a routine decision by EPA to allow the states to move forward. The Bush Administration must not try to stop them."

California's clean cars rule would cut global warming pollution from new cars and trucks by almost 30% by 2016. Ten other states have already adopted California's standards — Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington.

"There is no reason at all for EPA to block sensible and targeted state rules to attack a pressing problem. EPA should approve these rules as it has approved past state rules," said Rep. Boehlert. "Indeed, the agency ought to be working on applying the California rules nationally."

The new state standards are based on technologies available today and give automakers the flexibility to apply any technology they choose to reduce vehicles' global warming emissions. They will also save American motorists hundreds of dollars in fuel and maintenance costs.

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