



February 25, 2025

Dear committee members,

We the undersigned are writing in strong opposition to House File 376, which seeks to repeal the clean car standards that Minnesota successfully adopted in 2021 for their clear public health benefits, climate emissions reductions, and expansion of consumer choice.

Indeed, Clean Cars Minnesota has resulted in more efficient gasoline vehicles and more electric vehicles (EVs) being made available for sale to Minnesotans while also decreasing air pollution and climate emissions from our #1 greenhouse gas emitting sector, transportation. It's estimated that Clean Cars Minnesota could reduce greenhouse gas emissions by one million metric tons annually by 2030 and 2.5 million metric tons annually by 2050.¹

Tailpipe emissions from personal vehicles are also a major contributor of health-harming air pollution like particulate matter and ground-level ozone, which are well-documented in both short-term impacts like shortness of breath and long-term illnesses like heart disease, stroke, and lung cancer.² Such pollution is also more likely to harm communities of color and under-resourced households, who are often exposed to busy roadways. Increasing the number of EVs in our state, which have no or low tailpipe emissions, helps to reduce this health-harming pollution.³

As a result of Clean Cars Minnesota, Minnesotans have also enjoyed expanded access to the latest and best electric models in the market for the past 3 years, which now number over 100. Many of these newer EVs are even more affordable than earlier models and have ranges that match the needs of the vast majority of drivers -- the *median* range of new EVs in 2024 was 283 miles on a full charge.⁴

Given Minnesota's adoption of clean cars standards and progress in the EV market, it's no surprise that Minnesota has seen a 4x increase in EV sales since 2020, with EVs making almost

¹ Fresh Energy, "[Debunking Common Clean Cars Myths](#)," posted August 24, 2020.

² Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, *Air quality and health* ([webpage](#)), accessed February 23, 2025.

³ Fresh Energy, "[Electric Vehicles: Good for public health and the planet](#)," posted September 23, 2023.

⁴ U.S. Department of Energy, "Fact of the Week #1375 - Median EV Range in Model Year 2024 Reached a Record High of 283 Miles per Charge," posted December 30, 2024

7% of all new passenger vehicles sales in 2024.⁵ That means we are well on track to meet our final year of EV requirement under Clean Cars Minnesota, which requires just under 8% of new passenger vehicles sales in the state to be electric in 2025.⁶

Minnesota has the second-highest sales of EVs in the Midwest as well, just behind Illinois but well ahead of neighboring states like Wisconsin, the Dakotas, Michigan, Indiana, and Iowa.⁷ This means Minnesota has kept pace with the evolution of the EV market in the U.S. and hasn't fallen behind our coastal and warm weather state counterparts in getting access to newer EV models.

The benefits of Minnesota adopting clean car standards were so clear that supporters of adopting them included a broad set of parties, including public health organizations, clean energy advocates, climate justice groups, EV manufacturers and charging companies and thousands of Minnesotans. In fact, the rulemaking itself attracted almost 14,000 public comments in support of Clean Cars Minnesota.⁸

Minnesota's current clean cars standards are scheduled to end after 2025, at which point Minnesota will revert back to federal tailpipe emissions standards. Prematurely ending the clean car standards risks constraining Minnesotans' choice of EVs they can purchase in-state.

For all these reasons, we urge lawmakers to stand up for climate, public health, and consumer choice, and oppose HF 376.

Sincerely,

Fresh Energy
Alliance for Sustainability
CURE
Lakeville Friends of the Environment
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
Minnesota Environmental Partnership
Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light
MN350
MN Division of the Izaak Walton League of America
Move Minnesota Action
Sierra Club
100%

⁵ Alliance for Automotive Innovation, "Get Connected: Electric Vehicle Quarterly Report – Third Quarter, 2024" [at page 8](#). Minnesota had 6.88% EV sales through Q3 2024.

⁶ Fresh Energy, "[What's Up with 'Clean Car Standards and Why Do they Matter'?](#)" posted July 23, 2020.

⁷ Alliance for Automotive Innovation, "Get Connected: Electric Vehicle Quarterly Report – Third Quarter, 2024" [at page 8](#). 2024 EV market share (year-to-date Q3 2024) of Midwest states are as follows: IL – 7.39% (#21 in U.S.); MN – 6.88% (#23 in U.S.); MI – 5.35% (#29 in U.S.); OH – 4.95%; IN – 4.73%; WI – 4.47%; IA – 3.59%; SD – 2.38%; ND – 1.69% (#50 in U.S.; note D.C. is included in this ranking so out of 51 total).

⁸ Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light, "[Clean Car Advocates Submit Nearly 14,000 Comments of Support](#)," posted March 24, 2021