

Chris Swedzinski
State Representative



Minnesota House of Representatives

Dear Governor Walz and Commissioner Kessler,

In 2019 your administration bypassed the legislature and adopted California car emission standards, despite lack of demand for electric vehicles in our own state, serious concerns about their functionality during our cold winters, and lack of charging.

California's recent move to completely ban the sale of gas-powered vehicles by 2035 has renewed legitimate concerns about Minnesota having to follow orders from a state halfway across the nation. Numerous news articles have highlighted the lack of clarity from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and your administration whether or not Minnesota is already on the hook to follow California, so I am writing to get a definitive answer from you.

I ask for an answer on the record: "yes" or "no" — will your administration follow in California's footsteps by banning the sale of gas-powered vehicles in Minnesota?

If the answer is "no" you should immediately direct the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to repeal the current California car standards because it is pointless to force auto dealers to jump through hoops to comply with a standard for only a year – one that is complicating the marketplace and causing needless disruption for Minnesotans at a time when they need certainty.

I'm not looking for any great detail here, just a straight "yes" or "no" answer. This question is an important one for you to answer so Minnesota families and auto dealers clearly understand your administration's intentions.

I look forward to your speedy response. Given the simple nature of this request, I respectfully ask for a reply by close of business Sept. 21.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Swedzinski".

State Rep. Chris Swedzinski

