

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 10, 2018

The Honorable Andrew Wheeler
Acting Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20460

The Honorable Heidi King
Deputy Administrator
NHTSA Headquarters
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Acting Administrator Wheeler and Acting Administrator King:

We are writing in response to the joint proposed Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rules for Model Years 2021-2026 Passenger Cars and Light Trucks (NHTSA-2018-0067/EPA-HQ-OAR-2018-0283) to voice our strong support for maintaining the current Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) and greenhouse gas emissions standards for light duty trucks and passenger vehicles, known as the One National Program. Additionally, we request that as you engage in the formal rulemaking process to amend these standards that you do so in a way that allows for increased public participation.

The currently allotted 60 day window for the comment period does not afford the public adequate opportunity to weigh in on the proposal. To allow for increased public participation, we request that you lengthen the public comment period from 60 days to 120 days, providing all Americans with sufficient time to understand and comment on the proposed rule.

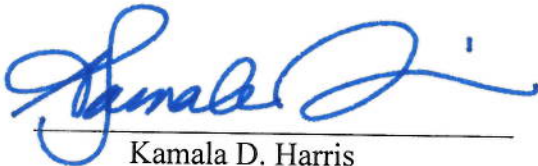
We also request that the deadline for comments on NHTSA's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the joint proposed rule be extended from the current deadline of September 24, 2018, to align with the requested 120 day comment period. The draft EIS and the joint proposed rule are closely intertwined, yet the published joint proposed rule and all of its supporting data were not available until nearly two weeks after the comment period opened for the EIS.

It is critical that all Americans have the opportunity to comment on a proposal of this magnitude. The proposed rule would not only impact the fuel efficiency of passenger vehicles, but it would also harm human health, increase consumer expenses, hurt the auto

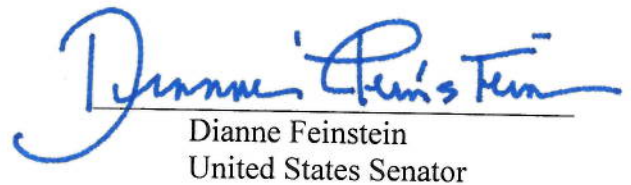
industry workforce, and stifle technological innovation¹. Furthermore, a proposal of this scale – which seeks to preempt state regulations and revoke California’s Clean Air Act waiver – would benefit from the additional time and opportunity for input from stakeholders regarding the rule’s impacts on California and the 12 states and Washington, D.C. that have adopted California’s standards.

Public participation is critical to our nation’s regulatory process. Therefore, we urge you to extend the comment period from 60 days to 120 days and extend the deadline for comments on NHTSA’s draft EIS to align with the requested 120 day comment period for the joint proposed rule.

Sincerely,



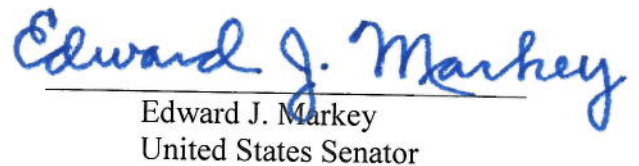
Kamala D. Harris
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator




Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator

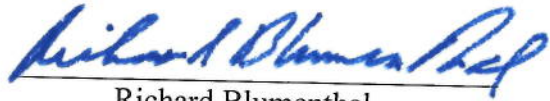


Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator

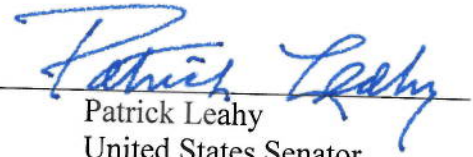


Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator

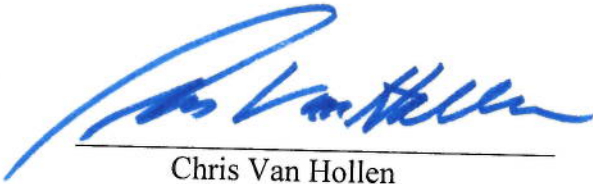
¹ <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2018/08/03/the-trump-administrations-fuel-efficiency-proposal-is-unnecessary-and-harmful/>



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



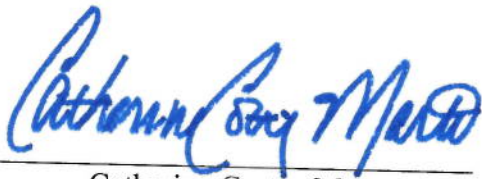
Patrick Leahy
United States Senator



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



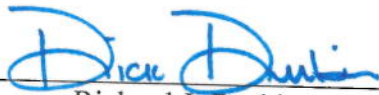
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



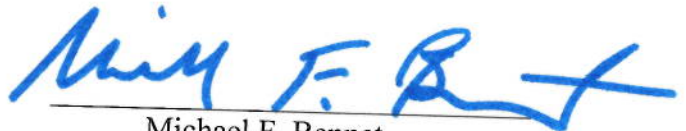
Dick Durbin
United States Senator



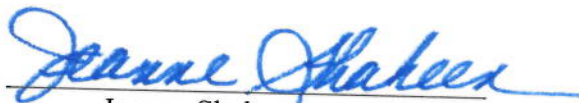
Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



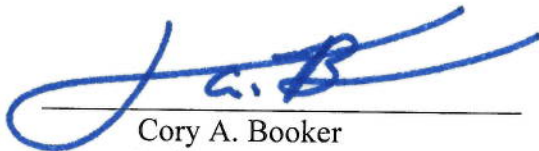
Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



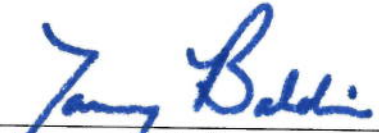
Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



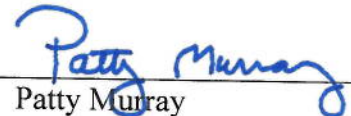
Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



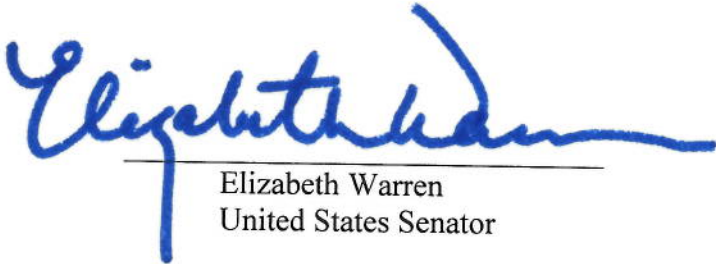
Patty Murray
United States Senator




Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



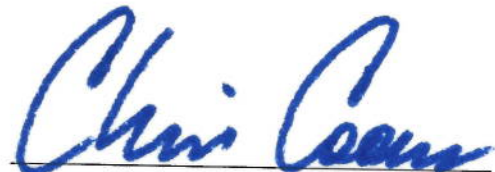
Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



Robert Menendez
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator

Bill Nelson

Bill Nelson
United States Senator

Amy Klobuchar

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator