

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

October 28, 2022

The Honorable Kathy Hochul  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

We write to you today urging you to immediately cease your proposal to mandate that all new vehicles and school buses purchased in New York be zero-emission models by the year 2035. Your plan to require an all-Electric Vehicle (EV) fleet will further raise prices on vehicles that New Yorkers already cannot afford, inhibit rural communities' ability to thrive, and wreak further havoc on the already struggling power grid in New York.

Forcing New Yorkers to purchase EVs in 2035 will cause significant financial hardship to the average consumer. Over the last year, electric vehicle prices have skyrocketed approximately 56.7 percent, while hybrid and plug-in hybrid cars rose 30.5 percent.<sup>1</sup> New Yorkers are already battling steep costs due to inflation, rising energy costs, and the ongoing supply chain crisis. Energy prices, including prices for home heating oil in the North Country, have nearly doubled over the last year.<sup>2</sup> Forcing New Yorkers to purchase electric vehicles will only serve to add undue burdens that they cannot bear.

The New York Independent System Operator predicts that approximately 7.7 million EVs will be on the road in New York by 2040, with 160,000 vehicles registered in the state by the end of 2022.<sup>3</sup> These EVs are primarily located in the greater New York City area, and it is clear your proposed EV mandate panders to downstate priorities instead of working for all New Yorkers. Rural communities in Upstate New York and the North Country rely on vehicles at much higher rates than the urban areas in and around New York City. In February 2022, the New York State Comptroller released an audit of the New York Power Authority (NYPA) which uncovered that NYPA placed charging stations in only 32 of 62 counties in the State and did not maintain an accurate inventory of EV charging stations.<sup>4</sup> This out-of-touch mandate will further inhibit New York rural communities' ability to prosper and maintain stable economies.

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<sup>1</sup> Jim Gorzelany, Why Used EV and Hybrid-Car Prices are Skyrocketing, *Forbes*, (Aug. 15, 2022), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jimgorzelany/2022/08/15/why-used-ev-and-hybrid-car-prices-are-skyrocketing/?sh=405e00712aa5>

<sup>2</sup> New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, *Monthly Average Home Heating Oil Prices* (Oct. 13, 2022), <https://www.nyscrda.ny.gov/researchers-and-policymakers/energy-prices/home-heating-oil/monthly-average-home-heating-oil-prices>

<sup>3</sup> New York ISO, the New York ISO Annual Grid & Markets Report, the *Path to a Reliable Greener Grid for New York* (2022), <https://www.nyiso.com/documents/20142/2223020/2022-Power-Trends-Report.pdf/d1f9eca5-b278-c445-2f3f-edd959611903?t=1654689893527>

<sup>4</sup> Office of the New York State Comptroller, *New York Power Authority Selected Management Operations and Practices, Report 2020-S-38*, (February 2022), <https://www.osc.state.ny.us/files/state-agencies/audits/pdf/sga-2022-20s38.pdf>

Additionally, this policy will significantly inhibit the state's electric grid's ability to meet the needs of New Yorkers. The grid is already challenged to comply with the state's abysmal climate law and otherwise overly burdensome regulatory environment. The New York power grid cannot sustain these massive changes to renewable energy, which presents concerns of grid reliability and resiliency.

In addition to the fact that this policy will drive up prices each New Yorker must pay for their vehicles, you are also taking away their right to choose what vehicle they want to drive. Instead of picking winners and losers from Albany, you should be working to enhance consumer choice and empower New Yorkers to decide how they want to spend their hard-earned money. We urge you reverse this decision and put the needs of all New Yorkers first.

Sincerely,



Elise M. Stefanik  
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin  
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney  
Member of Congress



Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress



Chris Jacobs  
Member of Congress



John Katko  
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Joe Sempolinski  
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