

**Subject:** Opposition to ACC 2 ZEV Mandate

**Date:** Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 8:32:07 PM Eastern Daylight Time

**From:** Robert Thomas

**To:** HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

Dear Governor Carney,

**I do not support the EV mandate that is to be regulated by DNREC.**

1. It is unconstitutional for the legislature to delegate the authority of law making that is VESTED in the legislature. Article 2 Section 1: *The legislative power of this state shall be **vested** in a general assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and House of representatives.*
2. Delaware air has never been cleaner and Delaware is already fully compliant with Environmental Protection Agency standards.
3. Many of our citizens are one fixed incomes, are just starting their families and careers, and some are small business owners, who cannot afford the high-ticket price of EV's and this cost should not be redistributed to other Delaware taxpayers.
4. There are other options for clean vehicular emissions, such as hydrogen fuel cells.
5. Living in Sussex County, we are vulnerable to evacuation orders and would be stranded if EV's were mandated.
6. You will constrain our freedom of choice
7. Forcing residents of Delaware to buy ZEV's is equivalent to "**taxation without representation**" which is one of the premises this country was founded on.
8. This change will have a major impact on many small business that rely on the transportation industry and the income they produce. What will the independent service centers do to maintain their income and the ability to employ people to work and provide tax dollars to sustain our government in Delaware.
9. Where do you proposes the folks living in the inner cities and those living and vacationing in the resort areas will be able to charge their ZEV's
10. Think about the fact that Delaware was the "1<sup>st</sup>" state in the union. I believe that made us a **leader** among other states and it is time to take the lead again and not become a "**follower**" of a state that clearly is not thinking of the impact this will have on their residents and the infrastructure

that will be needed to support ZEV's.

11. ZEV's should be able to COMPETE with other forms of transportation and if the competition wins out then the people will have made the choice without a "mandate".
12. Consider the impact this will have on all the car dealers that make our economy work and what it means to them.
13. Are we considering the impact on the environment when the batteries have to be replaced and cost to the owner of a ZEV at the time of replacement?
  - a. Currently the replacement cost of batteries is between \$17,000 and \$30,000, or more than half the cost of the car when it was new.
  - b. We also should consider that most of the material and the production of these batteries come from China and mines that are controlled by China
14. Please do not let this mandate be your legacy in the state of Delaware. The people that voted you in will have the final say at the ballot box come November.

Please keep in mind a survey conducted by Caesar Rodney Institute, Ragnar Research conducted a survey of 300 Likely Voters (LVs) across Delaware resulted in:  
"A majority of voters oppose (73%) a ban on the sale of new cars that are powered by gasoline and that would only allow sale of new electric cars, especially Republican voters (82%). High costs, not having a sufficient number of charging stations, and environmental harm from batteries are the main concerns. Voters are less likely to re-elect a legislator who supports the gasoline vehicle ban."

15. **Delaware air has never been cleaner and Delaware is already fully compliant with Environmental Protection Agency standards.**
16. We should also keep in mind recent surveys have predicted that by 2035 only 17% of all vehicles on the road will be ZEV's. That is a long way from the target set by California to have 100% ZEV's by 2035.

Bob Thomas  
Cell: 908-419-7900