

Message

From: National Black Chamber of Commerce [halford@nationalbcc.org]
Sent: 5/23/2018 4:44:58 PM
To: Bennett, Tate [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=1fa92542f7ca4d01973b18b2f11b9141-Bennett, E]
Subject: NBCC CAFÉ Letter



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May 23, 2018

The Honorable Elaine
Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: CAFÉ Standards

Dear Secretary Chao and Administrator Pruitt:

We write you today to express our strong support for your reconsideration of the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) and

automobile greenhouse gas emission standards for Model Years 2022-2025.

The National Black Chamber of Commerce and its 140 affiliated chapters (worldwide) are dedicated to the economic empowerment of African American communities across the United States. The NBCC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nonsectarian organization that reaches 100,000 Black-owned businesses. As leaders in our communities, we believe in the power of consumer choice - and in empowering individuals to make their own decisions.

The existing model-year 2022-25 mandates for automobiles were forced through during the waning days of the previous administration, without respect for prescribed regulatory timelines and in complete disregard of the safety and economic interests of American families. If allowed to stand, these mandates will place choices about what kinds of vehicles Americans may or may



not drive squarely in the hands of politicians and unelected bureaucrats - leaving families nationwide to shoulder the costs of the higher-priced vehicles that automakers are forced to sell.

The National Automobile Dealers Association estimates that the fuel economy mandates, if left untouched, "will increase the average price of a new vehicle by about \$3,000 in 2025 and shut nearly 7 million Americans out of the new car market." Various economic studies find that these regulations will likely cost American families tens of billions of dollars each year.

As is so often the case with ill-conceived government mandates, these consequences will fall hardest on those who can least afford it: the economically disadvantaged and those who live in our nation's underserved communities. One academic study finds that as the automobile mandates progress, the economic impacts "become

sharply regressive, with low-income households suffering welfare losses (as a fraction of income) more than three times as large as those of the high-income group."^[1]

American families and small business owners understand their own transportation needs far better than bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. or Sacramento, California. They deserve automobile regulations that promote - not impede - consumer choice and economic growth. We applaud your recent decision to reconsider the existing unachievable, unrealistic, and economically destructive federal fuel economy mandates. Thank you for your leadership on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Harry C. Alford
Harry C. Alford
President/CEO

Courtney Reynolds
Courtney Reynolds
Chair

On behalf of our US federation:

African American Chamber of Commerce NCF
African American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey
African American Chamber of Commerce of W.P.
Alabama Black Chamber of Commerce
Alabama State Black Chamber of Commerce
Augusta Black Chamber of Commerce
Bethels Place Black Chamber of Commerce
Biloxi-Gulfport Black Chamber of Commerce
Birmingham Black Chamber of Commerce
Black Chamber of Commerce of Western NY
Capital District Black Chamber of Commerce (NY)

[1] Jacobsen, Mark R. "Evaluating U.S. Fuel Economy Standards in a Model with Producer and Household Heterogeneity" (March 2012), p. 34.

National Black Chamber of Commerce,
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