

American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers

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The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers Chair House Committee on Energy and Commerce 2125 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Frank Pallone Ranking Member House Committee on Energy and Commerce 2322 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Rodgers and Ranking Member Pallone,

The American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers (AFPM) writes in support of three bills that will be considered by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce: H.R. 1435 *The Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act*, H.R. 4468 *The Choice in Automobile Retail Sales Act of 2023*, and H.R. 4469, *The No Fuel Credits for Batteries Act of 2023*. We encourage the Committee to advance this legislative package and to advocate for swift passage on the House floor.

AFPM is the leading trade association representing the US refining industry, which supplies gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, sustainable aviation fuel, and renewable diesel around the country; the petrochemical industry, which manufactures the essential building blocks for modern life; and the midstream energy industry, which makes it possible to transport energy feedstocks and products where they need to go.

Our industries are committed to working with policymakers to identify ways to meet growing global demand for affordable energy while increasing fuel efficiency and reducing the carbon intensity of transportation fuels. The US refining and petrochemical industries are essential in this endeavor and are both enthusiastic and well-positioned to lead the world due to years of innovation and investment, our workforce, and the competitive advantages offered by access to domestic crude oil and natural gas.

The bills under consideration are critical for encouraging competition and innovation among fuel and vehicle technologies. A sustainable future is only possible if we take an "all of the above approach" to energy, utilizing American renewable and petroleum liquid fuels, renewable and geologic natural gas, hydrogen, electric vehicles (EVs), and an array of feedstocks. Unfortunately, the federal government and states led by California are taking the opposite approach, effectively banning the sale of new internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles.

These bans would trade away consumer choice and energy independence for a dependency on foreign adversaries and an ineffective climate policy. While these policies claim to be pro-climate, they not only fail to account for carbon emissions associated with the manufacturing and charging of EVs, but also put in place an arbitrary systemic bias against any liquid fuel. At the same time, they increase our reliance on the critical minerals and batteries supply chain, which is almost exclusively controlled by China. China operates the majority of Africa's largest lithium mining projects and 80



percent of lithium refining.<sup>1</sup> Within two years, they are also expected to control half of all cobalt production.<sup>2</sup>

Rather than being subjected to prescriptive technology mandates, consumers should be able to choose vehicles that fit their families' needs. The *Choice in Automobile Retail Sales Act of 2023* and the *Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act* will ensure that industries can continue to innovate and compete for both consumers and emissions reductions. Neither bill removes the federal government's ability to set more stringent tailpipe standards or for California to take steps to set emissions standards consistent with the Clean Air Act. The legislation simply ensures that all technologies may compete.

Similarly, the *No Fuel Credits for Batteries Act of 2023* will ensure that EPA cannot misuse the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) to eliminate liquid fuels and force a transition to EVs. EPA recently removed eRINS program language from the final 2023-2025 RFS Set Rule. However, during testimony before your committee on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, EPA Assistant Administrator Joe Goffman stated the Agency will continue to explore avenues to pursue eRINS. Congress must make it clear that the RFS is a liquid fuels program and not a tool to force an EV transition.

AFPM strongly supports these bills and hopes to see widespread support for these commonsense measures. We urge you and your colleagues to quickly report them to the House floor and pursue swift floor consideration.

Thank you for your consideration on these matters. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like to discuss this legislation.

Regards,

Chet Thompson President and CEO American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bloomberg, Financial Times

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Financial Times