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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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July 26, 2007

The Honorable Christopher Carney
United States House of Representatives
416 Cannon House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Carney:

Our nation is poised to make historic gains in fuel economy standards for vehicles for the first time in three decades. The U.S. Senate recently passed an energy bill that raises fuel economy standards to 35 miles per gallon by 2020. The U.S. House of Representatives is poised to take up the same issue, possibly as early as next week. We are writing to express our concern about a proposal that threatens our commonwealth's ability to set vehicle emissions standards and cut global warming pollution through the Pennsylvania Clean Vehicles Program.

Reps. Baron Hill (D-IN) and Lee Terry (R-NE) have introduced a measure that would overturn the recent U.S. Supreme Court verdict in *Massachusetts vs. EPA*. In that decision, the court confirmed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's "unambiguous" authority under the federal Clean Air Act to regulate global warming pollution from cars and trucks. However, the Hill-Terry bill would undermine EPA's ability to set greenhouse gas standards for vehicles by giving this power instead to U.S. Department of Transportation, which could then make it illegal for states like Pennsylvania to implement and regulate their own emissions standards.

Along with 10 other states, Pennsylvania employs California's more stringent clean vehicle emission standards rather than the less stringent federal standards, as permitted under the Clean Air Act. Additionally, governors and legislatures across the country, including those in Florida, Arizona, Georgia, Illinois, Nevada, New Mexico, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas, are all moving toward adopting the California emissions standard. The Hill-Terry bill not only usurps states' rights, but it also rolls back the progress we have made to clean the air and protect public health.

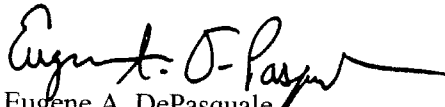
We have the opportunity right now to act in a meaningful way to reduce American dependence on foreign oil, save consumers money and cut harmful emissions. The Hill-Terry bill mandates only 32 mpg by 2022, and it even prohibits progress above 35 mpg. But a better plan, sponsored by Reps. Todd Platts (R-PA) and Ed Markey (D-MA), would raise fleetwide standards 4 percent each year, with a mandatory target of 27.5 miles per gallon in model year 2012 and 35 miles per gallon by model year 2018. Compared to Markey-Platts, the Hill-Terry proposal would have consumers spending \$26 billion more per year and leave the U.S. burning 1.1 million more barrels of oil per day. The Markey-Platts bill also would cut an additional 179 million more metric tons of global warming pollution per year. The Hill-Terry bill has clear disadvantages for Pennsylvania's energy security, economy and environment.

Congress should not jeopardize the rights of state legislatures and governors to set state standards and make progress in cutting harmful pollution. We urge you to oppose the Hill-Terry bill, which would erase the progress Pennsylvania has worked so hard to achieve. Please preserve our right to cut pollution, protect public health and clean up the environment.


Sincerely,



Camille George
Representative, 74th District



Eugene A. DePasquale
Representative, 95th District



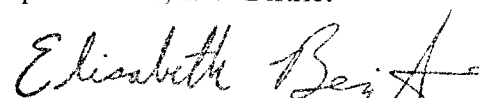
Kathy M. Manderino
Representative, 194th District



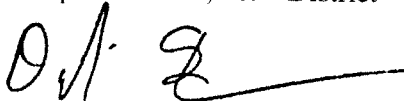
John J. Siptroth
Representative, 189th District



P. Michael Sturla
Representative, 96th District



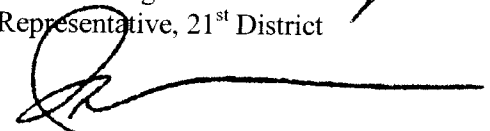
Lisa Bennington
Representative, 21st District



Daylin Leach
Representative, 149th District



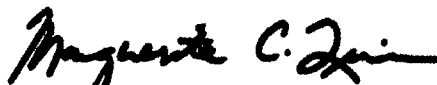
Chris King
Representative, 142nd District



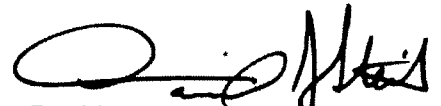
John T. Galloway
Representative, 140th District



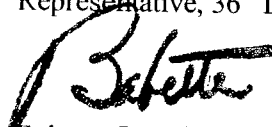
Harry A. Readshaw
Representative, 36th District



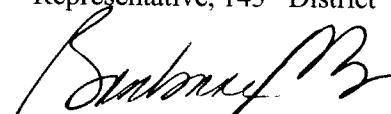
Marguerite Quinn
Representative, 143rd District



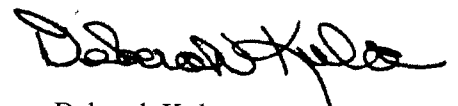
David J. Steil
Representative, 31st District



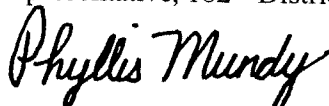
Babette Josephs
Representative, 182nd District



Barbara McIlvaine Smith
Representative, 156th District



Deberah Kula
Representative, 52nd District



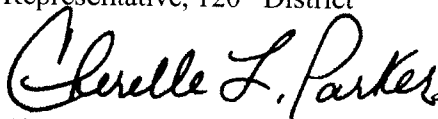
Phyllis Mundy
Representative, 120th District



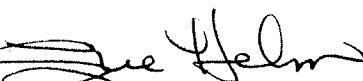
Dan Frankel
Representative, 23rd District



David R. Kessler
Representative, 130th District



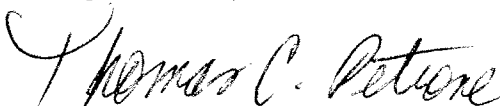
Cherelle Parker
Representative, 200th District



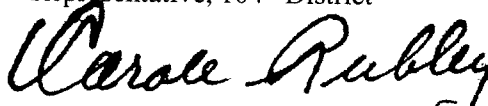
Sue Helm
Representative, 104th District



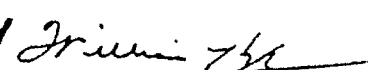
John Hornaman
Representative, 3rd District



Thomas C. Petrone
Representative, 27th District



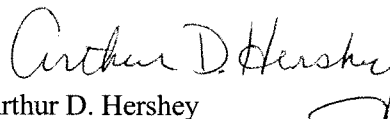
Carole A. Rubley
Representative, 157th District



William Kortz
Representative, 38th District



Rosita C. Youngblood
Representative, 198th District



Arthur D. Hershey
Representative, 13th District