



Vote Yes on Senator Constantine's Florida Clean Car Bill HB 1994

House Bill 1994 is an excellent opportunity to tackle global warming, reduce gas prices, and promote energy independence in Florida.

HB 1994 ratifies the rule that adopts vehicle emissions standards for cars and light trucks sold in Florida. The rule was approved in a vote of 6-1 in December by the Florida Environmental Regulation Committee. HB 7135 passed last year requires that the Legislature ratify the rule.

Florida voters overwhelmingly support adoption of the rules. In a survey of voters conducted in February 2009, 71% percent agreed that Florida should require auto manufacturers to sell cars and trucks that emit fewer greenhouse gases. The survey, commissioned by Audubon of Florida and its partners also found that 65% of voters agree that Florida will be impacted by the effects of climate change, and only 16% strongly disagree. When asked if "the state of Florida should regulate greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, in the same way they do other air pollutants" 70% of voters agreed.

The *Florida Energy and Climate Change Action Plan* details how Florida—a state highly vulnerable to the effects of global warming—can achieve lower greenhouse gas emissions. The plan assumes that there will be a sharp reduction of these emissions within the state's transportation sector due to the proposed rule.

Transportation accounts for 36 percent of Florida's greenhouse gas emissions according to the *Action Plan*. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection projects that transportation sources account for 44% of greenhouse gas emissions and transportation sources are expected to contribute to a sharp rise of this pollution. The vehicle emissions standards, if approved, will significantly reduce GHG emissions from cars and light trucks.

According to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) the average cost of light cars and trucks may increase under the rule by \$92 to \$668 dollars but consumers also will see a corresponding *decrease* in operating costs resulting from greater fuel efficiency. Over the vehicle's lifetime the new standards are likely to provide consumers with a \$1,000 to \$2,300 of fuel savings.

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