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OFFICES OF THE GOVERNORS

April 23, 2008

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are disappointed that your administration has chosen not to support our efforts to make real progress in controlling greenhouse gas emissions. On Tuesday, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) used a proposed rulemaking on Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards in an attempt to preempt our states and others across the nation that are working to control greenhouse gas emissions. States must take this action because the federal government has not adequately responded to this urgent threat.

NHTSA has no authority to preempt states from regulating greenhouse gases. Congress and two federal district courts have rejected NHTSA's claim to such authority. Furthermore, this attack completely undermines the cooperative federalism principles embodied in the Clean Air Act, and is an end run around 40 years of precedent under that law.


Our states intend to comment on the proposed rulemaking and, if necessary, will sue NHTSA, just as California and other states have sued the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, to ensure that states retain the right to reduce global climate change emissions. We hope that you will reconsider this rulemaking on CAFE in light of the crucial efforts undertaken by states to address greenhouse gas emissions. We look forward to your response.

The President
April 23, 2008
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Sincerely,



Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
California



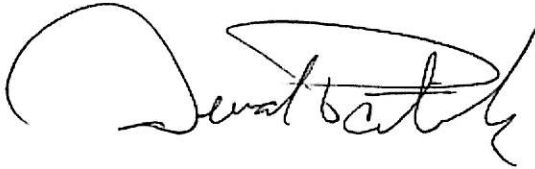
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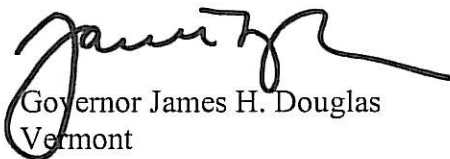
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cc: The Honorable Mary E. Peters