

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

May 25, 2006

Mr. Bryron S. Wine, III
8227 Depot Pl
Manassas, Virginia 20112

Dear Mr. Wine:

Thank you for writing to me to express your support for increasing automobile fuel efficiency standards. I always appreciate hearing from constituents on issues that are important to them.

I understand and share your concerns regarding automobile fuel efficiency. America's cars and light trucks are responsible for 33 percent of U.S. carbon dioxide pollution, which causes global warming. In addition, the United States is the largest consumer of oil, using 20.4 million barrels per day. By increasing Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards, particularly for sport utility vehicles (SUVs) and other light trucks, we can reduce our dependence on oil in addition to decreasing our greenhouse gas emissions.

There are many new technologies on the market to help automakers improve fuel efficiency standards. Unfortunately, without a mandatory increase in fuel economy standards, many of these technologies are being used instead to increase speed, size, or acceleration.

You will be pleased to know that I have re-introduced the "Automobile Fuel Economy Act of 2005" (S. 889). This bill would phase in an increase in the CAFE standards for light duty trucks and Sport Utility Vehicles (SUVs) so that by 2011, light duty trucks and SUVs would meet the same CAFE standards as cars do today. The bill would also mandate that the federal fleet of cars and trucks meet a higher fuel economy standard than currently required. Closing the "SUV loophole" will save 1 million barrels of oil a day, decrease foreign oil imports by 10 percent, and prevent 240 million tons of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere each year.

As you may already know, on August 23rd, the Bush Administration announced a proposal to slightly improve fuel economy standards for SUVs,

minivans and pick-up trucks. I, along with four other Senators, sent a letter to President Bush urging him to close the SUV loophole by setting even stricter national fuel economy standards of 27.5 miles per gallon for light trucks.

Please know that I will keep your comments in mind as I continue to fight for higher automobile fuel efficiency standards. Again, thank you for your letter and I hope you will continue to contact me on issues that are important to me. If you have any additional comments or questions, please feel free to contact my Washington, D.C. staff at (202)224-3841.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dianne Feinstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

Further information about my position on issues of concern to California and the Nation are available at my web site <http://feinstein.senate.gov>. You can also receive electronic e-mail updates by subscribing to my e-mail list at <http://feinstein.senate.gov/issue.html>.

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