



RE: Support **HB 270 Zero Emission Vehicle Rules**

Mr./Madame Chair and Committee Members:

The New Mexico Business Coalition (NMBC) represents hundreds of businesses and thousands of New Mexicans. We focus on making New Mexico a better place to live and work, with abundant good-paying jobs to provide for our families.

NMBC supports HB 270 Zero Emission Vehicle Rules, an excellent bipartisan bill that will address some of the state's most significant concerns with vehicle sales. This bill seeks to ensure the following protections for businesses and individuals. The following are the main reasons for our support:

- **Protection of New Mexico's Vehicle Market.** The bill safeguards the ability to buy, sell, lease, or use vehicles powered by any energy source without governmental interference. It stops policies at any government level that forces businesses or individuals to meet quotas based on energy sources or propulsion methods.
- **Job and Revenue Protection.**
 - The state's current objectives for vehicle emissions standards are unrealistic and could jeopardize up to 15,000 jobs in the vehicle industry. HB 270 will help maintain these jobs by protecting businesses from restrictive regulations that could reduce their market because consumers may not choose to purchase electric vehicles. This could risk jobs as the market shrinks.
 - Without the bill, residents may travel to neighboring states to purchase vehicles, resulting in lost tax revenue.
- **Ensuring Vehicle Freedom of Choice:**
 - HB 270 protects the freedom of consumers to choose the vehicle that best fits their needs, including internal combustion engine vehicles, which remain a preferred option for many drivers. This bill does not limit or preclude the sale or purchase of electric vehicles.
 - The bill supports market competition, which benefits consumers by offering more vehicle choices.

HB 270 is critical to preserving jobs, maintaining state revenue, and ensuring consumers can choose vehicles that meet their budgets and needs. The bill fosters a balanced approach to environmental policy without unfairly restricting vehicle options.

We urge your support of HB 270 Zero Emission Vehicle Rules.

Thank you for considering my comments,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carla J. Sonntag'.

Carla J. Sonntag
President and CEO