

Senator:

My name is Frank Pagurko, and I write to you on behalf of the Rio Grande Foundation, an economic policy think tank based in Albuquerque. We work to promote the interests of the people of New Mexico through free market policy.

In the interest of New Mexico taxpayers, I strongly urge you to **vote NO** on SB 130, the “Purchase of Electric Vehicles” bill. Requiring 75% of the state’s vehicle fleet to be fully electric by 2030 would significantly increase costs to taxpayers. Electric vehicles are still, on average, much more expensive than traditional vehicles. Even as technology advances, battery costs remain a significant hurdle to driving down the sticker price of electric vehicles. Forcing this changeover in just nine years would likely also require that some traditional vehicles be replaced before the end of their useful life, increasing costs even further. New Mexico has relatively few charging stations for electric vehicles, and millions of dollars would have to be spent to build out that infrastructure. If electric vehicles were more cost effective than their gasoline-powered counterparts, the Transportation Services Division would not require a mandate to make the switch. Given the economic devastation wreaked by the ongoing pandemic, cost efficiency should be a top priority for the legislature.

Please do not force our state’s government to make unnecessary and inefficient expenditures and vote no on SB 130. Thank you.



Frank Pagurko III