

STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

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May 15, 2008

The Honorable Jim Weiers
Speaker of the House
Arizona House of Representatives
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: House Bill 2017; Greenhouse Emissions; Regulations; Fuel Economy

Dear Speaker Weiers:

Today I vetoed House Bill 2017, which would have undercut the ability of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") to fulfill its statutory responsibilities monitoring the health and quality of Arizona's air, land and water. House Bill 2017 would have prohibited ADEQ or any agency of government from adopting or enforcing programs that would have in any way regulated the emission of greenhouse gas or motor vehicle fuel economy, without legislative approval through specific legislative authorization. While the legislature has a role in ensuring Arizonans have clean air to breathe, House Bill 2017 is micromanagement.

Establishing standards for car emissions is ADEQ's explicit statutory responsibility. ADEQ fulfilled its responsibilities by adopting the Clean Car Rules and did so through the process required by law, which included a 20-month long public review that was completed on May 6, 2008. Ignoring that process and requiring another political approval at the last minute is unnecessary. Because some new arguments have arisen about possible consequences of the Clean Car Rules, ADEQ will monitor the effects of the new rules so that necessary adjustments can be made. These adjustments will be better dealt with administratively as well.

As to the Western Climate Initiative, the coalition of seven states and three Canadian provinces that make up the membership of the Initiative are in the process of formulating recommendations concerning how to collectively reduce climate change effects. The recommendations will be based on public input at numerous regional stakeholder meetings throughout this summer and released at the end of the summer. These are only recommendations, not requirements. Thus, it is premature to summarily require any programs

The Honorable Jim Weiers

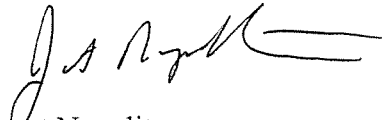
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related to greenhouse gases receive special legislative approval, in addition to all the other procedures that will be utilized.

For these and other reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 2017. I stand ready to work with the legislature, business and community stakeholders, and ADEQ on these and other measures that will provide Arizonans cleaner air and a better environment.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Napolitano", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Janet Napolitano
Governor

JN:LK/jm

cc: The Honorable Timothy S. Bee
The Honorable Bill Konopnicki