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ATTORNEY GENERAL MADIGAN FILES LAWSUIT TO DEFEND NATIONAL CLEAN CAR RULES

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today joined a coalition of 17 states and the District of Columbia to file a lawsuit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to preserve new greenhouse gas emission standards that will save drivers money, reduce oil consumption, and curb greenhouse gases.

The [lawsuit](#) was filed in the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit after the EPA announced its intent to scrap the emissions standards in place for vehicle model years 2022-2025 that were designed to drastically reduce car emissions across the country. Madigan and the coalition argue in the lawsuit that the EPA acted arbitrarily and capriciously, failed to follow its own clean car regulations and violated the Clean Air Act.

"The EPA is attempting to roll back standards that were created to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the public's health," Madigan said. "I will continue to stand up against the EPA's blatant disregard of its mission to protect and preserve the environment for residents and future generations."

In 2010, the EPA, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the California Air Resources Board established a single national program of greenhouse gas emissions standards for model year 2012-2025 vehicles. This program allows automakers to design and manufacture vehicles with a single emissions standard, instead of varying federal and state regulations.

The lawsuit seeks to protect those federal standards, which are estimated to reduce carbon pollution by the equivalent of emissions from 134 coal power plants burning for an entire year and will save drivers \$1,650 per vehicle. Currently, the car industry is on track to meet or exceed these standards.

Last year, the EPA affirmed that the standards were appropriate based on an extensive record of data. However, last month the EPA arbitrarily reversed course and announced that the greenhouse gas emissions standards should be scrapped. The administration offered no evidence to support this decision and deferred any analysis to a forthcoming rulemaking designed to try to weaken the existing 2022-2025 standards.

Joining Madigan in filing today's lawsuit were the attorneys general of California, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington, as well as the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Minnesota Department of Transportation. This coalition represents approximately 44 percent of the U.S. population and 43 percent of the new car sales market nationally.

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