



June 26, 2024

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Chair  
House Committee on Energy & Commerce  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Energy & Commerce  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair McMorris Rodgers and Ranking Member Pallone:

On behalf of the American Public Health Association, a diverse community of public health professionals that champion the health of all people and communities, I write in strong opposition to several bills the committee is scheduled to mark-up on June 27 that will only undermine the nation's efforts to clean up dangerous air pollution and combat the health impacts of climate change that we are already experiencing across the nation.

We urge the committee to reject the following bills that would use the Congressional Review Act to overturn several important public health rules recently issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that have [broad support from the health community](#):

**H.J. Res. 163: Overturn limits on carbon pollution from power plants.**

EPA finalized new rules to limit carbon emissions from existing coal plants and future gas plants. These rules will achieve substantial reductions in carbon emissions – 1.3 billion metric tons through 2047. In addition to the climate benefits, the rule will have significant health benefits and will avoid 360,000 cases of asthma symptoms, 48,000 avoided school absences and 57,000 lost workdays.

**H.J. Res. 136: Overturn stronger multi-pollutant standards for new cars.**

EPA finalized standards that will reduce air and climate pollution from future new cars and light trucks. The rule will reduce 7.2 billion metric tons of carbon pollution, 8,700 tons of particle pollution, 36,000 tons of nitrogen oxides and 150,000 tons of volatile organic compounds. The rule will also make new gasoline-powered cars less polluting by requiring readily available and cost-effective technology to reduce particulate matter emissions.

**H.J. Res. 133: Overturn stronger greenhouse gas standards for new trucks.**

EPA finalized new rules to make future new heavy-duty vehicles less polluting, beginning in model year 2027. The standards for heavy-duty vehicles will reduce one billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions by 2055. The final rule will yield \$300 million in annualized public health benefits – providing much needed relief to the 72 million people who live near major truck routes.

**H.J. Res. 117: Overturn improved national particle pollution standards.**

EPA strengthened the annual fine particle pollution standard, which is expected to save 4,500 lives, prevent 800,000 cases of asthma symptoms and avoid 290,000 lost workdays in 2032 with estimated public health benefits of \$46 billion. These air pollution standards are science driven, health-based and have a decades-long track record of success in cleaning up pollution.

We strongly urge all members of the committee to oppose these misguided bills that will undermine critical public health protections from air pollution and the health impacts of climate change. Instead, we urge the committee to work in a bipartisan manner to promote additional measures that will further improve public health by reducing air pollution and protect the public from the many health threats we are already experiencing from climate change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Georges C. Benjamin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "G".

Georges C. Benjamin, MD  
Executive Director