

SENATOR KEVIN C. KELLY SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

21ST DISTRICT

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April 26, 2022

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal United States Senator 90 State House Square 10th Floor Hartford, CT, 06103

The Honorable Christopher Murphy United States Senator Colt Gateway 120 Huyshope Avenue, Suite 401 Hartford, CT 06106

The Honorable John Larson United States Representative First Congressional District 221 Main Street, 2nd Floor Hartford, CT 06106 The Honorable Joe Courtney United States Representative Second Congressional District 55 Main Street, Suite 250 Norwich, CT 06360

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro United States Representative Third Congressional District 59 Elm Street New Haven, CT 06510

The Honorable Jahana Hayes United States Representative Fifth Congressional District 108 Bank Street 2nd Floor Waterbury, CT 06702 The Honorable Jim Himes United States Representative Fourth Congressional District 350 Fairfield Ave. Suite 603 Bridgeport, CT 06604

Dear Connecticut's Congressional Delegation:

We are writing to you again to urge Connecticut's congressional delegation to work to achieve clean air for all Connecticut residents, by fighting for federal action.

In March of 2021 we first wrote to you as a new Republican leader seeking your support in advocating for federal policies to achieve clean air for Connecticut. As you are aware, Connecticut's air quality is impacted most by behaviors and actions in states to our west. More than 90 percent of ozone levels in southwest Connecticut and more than 80 percent of ozone levels in some remaining parts of the state result from pollution that originates in areas located out of Connecticut's jurisdiction and control, as Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has well documented.

Time and again Connecticut residents are asked to shoulder new sacrifices and promised they will see cleaner air as a result. But the reality is, unless other states make the same commitments Connecticut residents do, nothing will change. Our air quality will continue to suffer as a result of other states' inaction and the uncontrollable natural flow of air from west to east as our Earth turns. The latest ask of Connecticut residents, added to a bill under consideration by the state legislature, would add new costs onto Connecticut's job creators, and add increased burdens onto working and middle class families. Again, the measure promises air quality improvement that cannot be delivered unless other states, in a federal effort, join these measures.

The addition to Senate Bill 4 would allow the Commissioner of the State DEEP to impose California's emissions standards for medium and heavy-duty trucks. This would significantly increase costs on goods shipped throughout our state. It will increase costs of clothing, food, home heating oil and more. At the same

time, this bill does not and cannot compel other states to make a similar commitment or to stop far more damaging practices that send pollution directly into our state.

If Connecticut middle class families are going to be asked to make a sacrifice at a time when they are already struggling significantly, then states to our west must make the same sacrifice. Otherwise, Connecticut families will get nothing for that effort.

We urge you, as Connecticut's delegation, to speak with one voice in fighting for clean air policies to be adopted by states to the west of Connecticut. You hold power as the majority in Congress and are members of the same party as the President. You are in the position to make this happen on the federal level for the change that families in Connecticut deserve.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Kevin C. Kelly

Senate Republican Leader

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Senate Republican Leader, Pro Tempore