



U.S. Senate Protects Access to Combustion Engines Regulations Proved Economically and Technologically Infeasible

May 22, 2025: In response to the U.S. Senate passing legislation that revokes California's Advanced Clean Trucks and low-NOx Omnibus waivers, a national coalition of towing and recovery truck owners released the following statement.

"While well-intended, California's electric truck mandates were unworkable," said Josh Lovelace, national director of the Safe Roads Coalition. "Multiple states had already delayed the rule as California created a de facto ban on even new, lower-emission diesel combustion engines. By protecting access to combustion engines, Congress has ensured that America's motoring public will continue to have access to reliable and affordable towing services."

Now that the U.S. House and Senate have repealed California's EV waivers, President Donald J. Trump is expected to sign the legislation.

Except for California, [every state scheduled to adopt California's rules in 2025-26](#) has delayed them to 2027, modified them (in violation of the Clean Air Act), or is actively considering similar actions. The remaining ACT states have an adoption date of 2027.

In recent weeks, the governors of [Maryland, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Oregon](#) have delayed the implementation of California's Advanced Clean Trucks regulations. These blue states are among the 10 that have utilized federal waivers to enforce California's clean truck rules. The remaining ACT states have an adoption date set for 2027.

Public safety agencies widely recognize towing and recovery drivers as essential members of the roadway safety network that supports motorists and first responders. By providing reliable roadside assistance 24/7 and clearing road accidents and mechanical breakdowns, motorists and truckers spend less time stuck in traffic, use less fuel, and produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions. In California ([Freeway Service Patrol](#)) and some other states, towing services work with state and local transportation authorities to offer free highway services. UC Berkeley found that tow truck availability reduces emissions by quickly removing vehicles to ease traffic congestion.

The Safe Roads Coalition is a coalition of towing and recovery truck businesses from 11 ACT states that seek delays, or the exemption afforded to other emergency vehicles (police,

fire, and government-owned tow trucks). There are an estimated 45,000 towing and recovery businesses in the U.S. Visit www.saferoadscoalition.com for news, including an explainer video.

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