

Senator Roger Madigan, Chairman
Transportation
Room 286 Main Capitol Building
Senate Box 203023
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3023



Senator Mary Jo White, Chairman
Environmental Resources & Energy
Room 169 Main Capitol Building
Senate Box 203021
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3021

Senate of Pennsylvania

October 26, 2006

Reuters America
3 Times Square
New York, NY 10036

Dear Editor:

Scott DiSavino's recent article (PA Keeps Green Auto Emissions) is "journalism" at its worst. It simply regurgitates a press release from a biased source without clarification or balance.

It is important to correct some of the more egregious factual errors in Mr. DiSavino's article:

- PA did not adopt and intend to implement the California standards under former Gov. Ridge
- PA currently uses – and always has – the strict federal vehicle emission standards. Hence, there can be no 'rollback'
- The California standards are not more stringent or green; the EPA estimates it provides maybe a 1-2% added ozone air quality benefit
- It is the Rendell Administration which is seeking to impose – by regulation – California's emission standards in PA
- When legislation is supported by the Senate Democratic Leader and the Senate Democratic chairmen of both the Environmental and Transportation Committees, not even Reuters can dismiss this as a partisan, Republican issue
- The irony is that while we seek to have PA's elected officials make this choice, advocates for the California standards would prefer an out-of-state board, influenced by California special interest lobbyists, to set Pennsylvania's standards. Interestingly, for many months the source you cite as aghast about out-of-state interests failed to register as a lobbyist with the PA Senate

This news article, like many which have filled various newspapers across Pennsylvania, is factually wrong and extremely unprofessional. Reuters policy affirms its commitment to "*integrity, independence and freedom from bias*" which must be upheld at all times. Reuters further states its commitment to accurate and balanced reporting, with factual errors to be corrected promptly.

Your coverage falls woefully short of these principles. We look forward to promptly receiving a copy of your correction at the above address.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Roger A. Madigan in black ink.

Roger Madigan, Chairman
Senate Transportation Committee

Handwritten signature of Mary Jo White in black ink.

Mary Jo White, Chairman
Senate Environmental Resources
& Energy Committee

Enclosure: Supporting Documentation

[Attachment A](#)

[Attachment B](#)