



**BRIAN E. FROSH, MARYLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL**

# **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Attorney General Frosh Joins Coalition in Urging EPA to Strengthen Regulation of Heavy-Duty Trucks**

**BALTIMORE, MD (May 16, 2022)** – Maryland Attorney Brian E. Frosh today, joining a coalition of 19 attorneys general, urged the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to impose stronger regulations on nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions and other pollutants from heavy-duty trucks. NOx, a smog-forming pollutant that exacerbates asthma and other health problems, has disparate impacts on communities of color and low-income communities, who disproportionately live, work, or attend school near transportation and trade corridors – such as railyards, ports, warehouses, and major roadways.

In today's [letter](#), the coalition urges the EPA to adopt the most stringent option for regulating NOx emissions from heavy-duty trucks. These stronger standards are vital to reducing NOx emissions in environmental justice communities and to help states attain and maintain national ambient air quality standards for ozone and particulate matter.

“Heavy-duty trucks spew massive amounts of NOx and other pollutants, with disproportionate impacts on low-income communities and communities of color,” said Attorney General Frosh. “There is no good reason why people should continue to be forced to breathe the pollution that they generate.”

On-road heavy-duty vehicles are the largest source of transportation-related NOx emissions. Communities of color and low-income communities are most vulnerable to NOx pollution and its health consequences. But while the environmental and health impacts of NOx are well-known, today’s heavy-duty trucks do not effectively control NOx emissions, especially when they are idling, moving slowly, or in stop-and-go traffic.

In today's letter, the attorneys general urge the EPA to adopt the most stringent option in its proposal, which would implement stronger NOx standards in a two-step approach: First increasing stringency for model year 2027, and then increasing stringency again for model year 2031. If adopted, these standards would align federal standards more closely with California's stringent NOx standards, which are not only good for the environment and public health, but technologically feasible and cost-effective.

Joining Attorney General Frosh in today's letter are the attorneys general of California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin.

<https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/press/2022/051722.pdf>