



Institute for  
**Policy Integrity**  
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

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## **STATEMENT ON NEW CAFE STANDARDS**

Today, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) released its [final rule](#) updating the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards for cars and light trucks. As part of its ongoing engagement on federal transportation policy, the Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU School of Law [filed comments](#) on the proposed rule, which were cited more than 30 times in the final rule. NHTSA also this week [repealed](#) a Trump-era rule that would have allowed companies that violate CAFE rules to face reduced civil penalties. The agency cites Policy Integrity’s [comments](#) and [administrative advocacy](#) in this repeal.

**Meredith Hankins, an attorney at the Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU School of Law, issued the following statement:**

*"By finalizing the largest increases to fuel economy standards in the CAFE program’s history, NHTSA is enabling consumers to save money at the pump and furthering our energy independence at this crucial time. In adopting stronger standards than originally proposed—with higher net benefits for Americans—NHTSA is sending a clear signal to automakers that clean vehicles are the future. I am pleased to see that NHTSA followed the recommendations of the Institute for Policy Integrity in fully accounting for the benefits of strong fuel economy standards through rigorous economic analysis."*

*"NHTSA’s move to reinstate stronger penalties for automaker violations will make the CAFE program far more effective. The weakening of these penalties threatened to seriously undermine vehicle efficiency improvements and consumer savings."*

Hankins is available for interviews on this issue.

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**[The Institute for Policy Integrity](#)** at New York University School of Law is a non-partisan think tank dedicated to improving the quality of government decisionmaking. The institute produces original scholarly research in the fields of economics, law, and regulatory policy; and advocates for reform before courts, legislatures, and executive agencies.