

# Senate sends bills protecting gas-powered cars, equipment to governor

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The state and local governments would be barred from seeking to restrict the use or sale of gas-powered cars and equipment such as lawnmowers or leaf blowers under legislation that cleared the Senate today.

The 22-11 votes send AB 141 and 142 to the desk of Dem Gov. Tony Evers.

Seven states have banned the sale of gas-powered vehicles starting in 2035, while California has passed a ban on gas-powered lawn mowers that's set to take effect next year. House Dems in Minnesota earlier this year also introduced a bill seeking to bar the same of new gas-powered lawn mowers and other garden equipment starting in 2025. The Minnesota bill wouldn't cover snow blowers.

The Senate also approved SB 49, which would bar the state and local governments from placing any restrictions on connecting a utility service based on the source of energy to be provided. The bill — which was approved 22-11 along party lines — was introduced amid various proposals to restrict or ban gas stoves.

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