

# SENATE BILL 61

R2

(PRE-FILED)

2lr1256  
CF HB 10

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By: **Senator Zucker**

Requested: November 1, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 22, 2022

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Transit Administration – Conversion to Zero-Emission Buses**  
3 **(Zero-Emission Bus Transition Act Revisions)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Transit Administration to provide certain  
5 safety and workforce development training for its operations training workforce and  
6 its maintenance workforce; requiring the Administration’s annual report on the  
7 implementation of the conversion of the State’s transit bus fleet to zero-emission  
8 buses to include a plan that ensures certain employee protections and a certification  
9 that the Administration is adhering to the plan; and generally relating to converting  
10 the State’s transit bus fleet to zero-emission buses.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Transportation  
13 Section 7-406  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Transportation**

19 7-406.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



- 1 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
- 2 (2) “Alternative–fuel bus” means a motor vehicle that:
- 3 (i) Is designed to carry more than 10 passengers and is used to carry  
4 passengers for compensation;
- 5 (ii) Is not powered by diesel or gasoline;
- 6 (iii) Provides greenhouse gas emissions reductions in comparison to  
7 an equivalent diesel–powered vehicle; and
- 8 (iv) Is not a taxicab.
- 9 (3) “Bus” has the meaning stated in § 11–105 of this article.
- 10 (4) “Zero–emission bus” means a motor vehicle that is:
- 11 (i) Designed to carry more than 10 passengers and is used to carry  
12 passengers for compensation;
- 13 (ii) A zero–emission vehicle; and
- 14 (iii) Not a taxicab.
- 15 (5) “Zero–emission vehicle” means:
- 16 (i) A fuel cell electric vehicle that:
- 17 1. Is a motor vehicle;
- 18 2. Is made by a manufacturer;
- 19 3. Is manufactured primarily for use on public streets, roads,  
20 and highways;
- 21 4. Has a maximum speed capability of at least 55 miles per  
22 hour;
- 23 5. Is powered entirely by electricity, produced by combining  
24 hydrogen and oxygen, that runs the motor;
- 25 6. Has an operating range of at least 100 miles; and
- 26 7. Produces only water vapor and heat as by–products; or
- 27 (ii) A plug–in electric drive vehicle that:

- 1                   1.     Is a motor vehicle;
- 2                   2.     Is made by a manufacturer;
- 3                   3.     Has a maximum speed capability of at least 55 miles per  
4 hour; and
- 5                   4.     Is propelled by an electric motor that draws electricity  
6 from a battery that:
- 7                   A.     Has a capacity of not less than 4 kilowatt–hours; and
- 8                   B.     Is capable of being recharged from an external source of  
9 electricity.

10           (b)   (1)   This section applies to the Administration’s State transit bus fleet.

11                   (2)   This section does not apply to a bus that is part of a locally operated  
12 transit system.

13           (c)   (1)   Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, beginning in  
14 fiscal year 2023, the Administration may not enter into a contract to purchase buses for the  
15 Administration’s State transit bus fleet that are not zero–emission buses.

16                   (2)   If the Administration determines that no available zero–emission bus  
17 meets the performance requirements for a particular use, the Administration may purchase  
18 an alternative–fuel bus for that use.

19                   (3)   The full cost of zero–emission and alternative–fuel buses purchased  
20 under this subsection shall be paid from the Transportation Trust Fund.

21           (d)   **(1)   THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL PROVIDE SAFETY AND WORKFORCE  
22 DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR ITS:**

23                   **(I)   OPERATIONS TRAINING WORKFORCE; AND**

24                   **(II)   MAINTENANCE WORKFORCE IN A MANNER THAT ENABLES  
25 THE MAINTENANCE WORKFORCE TO SAFELY REPAIR AND MAINTAIN:**

26                   1.     **THE ADMINISTRATION’S ZERO–EMISSION BUSES AND  
27 ALL THEIR COMPONENTS; AND**

28                   2.     **THE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE  
29 ZERO–EMISSION BUSES.**

1           **(2) THE TRAINING REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**  
2 **SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIPS AND OTHER**  
3 **LABOR-MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS THE IMPACT OF THE**  
4 **TRANSITION TO ZERO-EMISSION BUSES ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S WORKFORCE.**

5           **(E)** The Administration shall ensure the development of charging infrastructure  
6 to support the operation of zero-emission buses in the State transit bus fleet.

7           **[(e)] (F)** (1) On or before January 1, 2022, and each January 1 thereafter, the  
8 Administration shall, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, submit  
9 a report to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Senate Education, Health, and  
10 Environmental Affairs Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House  
11 Environment and Transportation Committee on the implementation of this section.

12           (2) The annual report shall include:

13                   (i) A schedule for converting the Administration's State transit bus  
14 fleet to zero-emission buses;

15                   (ii) An evaluation of the charging infrastructure needed for the  
16 Administration to create and maintain a State transit bus fleet of zero-emission buses;

17                   (iii) A plan for **[transitioning]**:

18                               **1. TRANSITIONING** any State employees adversely affected  
19 by the conversion from a diesel-powered State transit bus fleet to a zero-emission State  
20 transit bus fleet to similar or other employment within the Administration or Department  
21 that has commensurate seniority, pay, and benefits;

22                               **2. ENSURING THAT NO DUTIES OR FUNCTIONS OF STATE**  
23 **EMPLOYEES ARE TRANSFERRED TO A CONTRACTING ENTITY AS A RESULT OF THE**  
24 **CONVERSION FROM A DIESEL-POWERED STATE TRANSIT BUS FLEET TO A**  
25 **ZERO-EMISSION STATE TRANSIT BUS FLEET; AND**

26                               **3. ENSURING THAT ANY ENTITY OTHER THAN THE**  
27 **ADMINISTRATION THAT OPERATES OR MAINTAINS ZERO-EMISSION BUSES ON**  
28 **BEHALF OF THE ADMINISTRATION PROVIDES EMPLOYEE PROTECTIONS**  
29 **EQUIVALENT TO THE PROTECTIONS REQUIRED BY THE PLAN;**

30                               **(IV) A CERTIFICATION THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS**  
31 **ADHERING TO THE PLAN REQUIRED UNDER ITEM (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH;**

32                   **[(iv)] (V)** In coordination with other appropriate State agencies, an  
33 estimate of the reduction in the amount of carbon dioxide emissions, measured in pounds,  
34 that will be obtained through the use of zero-emission buses each year until the State

1 transit bus fleet is converted to zero-emission buses; and

2 ~~[(v)]~~ (VI) A financial analysis:

3 1. Of the projected cost of purchasing, maintaining, and  
4 providing charging infrastructure for the zero-emission State transit bus fleet each year  
5 until the fleet is converted to zero-emission buses; and

6 2. Comparing the projected cost under item 1 of this item to  
7 the projected cost of continuing to operate a diesel-powered State transit bus fleet.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
9 1, 2022.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.