



HoCoClimateAction.org
Howard County, Maryland

HoCo Climate Action

Committee: Environment & Transportation Committee

Testimony on: HB1316 – Residential Construction – Electric Vehicle Charging

Position: Favorable

Hearing Date: February 25, 2020

HoCo Climate Action, a 350.org local chapter, is a grassroots organization representing more than 1,200 subscribers and a member of the Maryland Climate Coalition and the Howard County Climate Collaboration.

We support HB1316 – Residential Construction – Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging, which would require at least Level 2 EV charging for new housing construction. An ample amount of Level 2 EV charging would be required for multifamily housing and either Level 2 EV charging or electric wiring for future installation would be required for single-family homes.

Transportation is the number one contributor to climate pollution in Maryland and the U.S. Maryland joined seven other states in forming a task force to ensure the successful implementation of the Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV) program. Maryland has a stated goal of registering 300,000 EVs by 2025 and according to the Baltimore Sun, only 18,000 EVs are registered in-state so far.

The International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT) recently highlighted a lack of charging infrastructure to meet current and expected EV demand in the US. ICCT estimates charging infrastructure deployment must grow about 20% annually to meet the 2025 target. Having ample and convenient charging for EVs is critical in meeting Maryland's 40% greenhouse gas reduction goal required by state law.

If we are to meet the imperative of leaving our grandchildren with a healthier planet, we must electrify our transportation sector and build supporting infrastructure. Requiring new housing construction provide EV charging infrastructure would help alleviate the lack of convenient and ample charging for these needed Zero Emission Vehicles. This legislation would also allow for more equitable ownership of EV, because those who don't live in single-family housing otherwise lack access to at-home charging.

For all these reasons, we urge a favorable report.

HoCo Climate Action

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Supporting documents/articles:
<https://www.baltimoresun.com/news/environment/bs-md-electric-vehicle-credit-20190702-story.html>
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/energyinnovation/2019/04/30/how-states-can-overcome-the-looming-ev-charging-infrastructure-gap-new-york-maryland-michigan/#4fb7f3ca10f2>
<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Air/MobileSources/Pages/ZEV.aspx>