Testimony to the House Environment and Transportation Committee
HB 1316 Residential Construction – Electric Vehicle Charging
Position: Favorable

25 February 2020

The Honorable Kumar Barve, Chair
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Chair Barve and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee:

My name is Scott Wilson, and I currently serve on the Maryland Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC), and am Vice President of the Electric Vehicle Association of Greater Washington DC (EVADC). I support passage of HB 1316 for the following reasons.

As Marylanders are discovering, one of the greatest advantages of owning an electric vehicle is being able to charge it at home. Next to free public charging, it is typically the lowest cost electricity available. Given what I pay for electricity at home, I drive at about 3.5 cents/mile. At current prices, a gas car would cost me about 12 cents/mile, thus my daily driving cost in my EV is about one-third what it would otherwise be.

An EV charger is typically about $400. When we installed ours in 2012, I paid a local electrician about $300 to run a 240V line into the garage. We were lucky, since the distances were short. If a homeowner has a more complex layout with longer wiring runs and more drilling, the costs can be closer to $1500-$2000. *These costs can be easily avoided for future homeowners if a 240V line is run to the garage during construction.* Pre-wiring a garage with a 240V line during construction is the cheapest and easiest means to ensure that, should a family decide to take advantage of the EV opportunity, it's available to them at minimum cost.

Residents of new multi-family residences and townhomes should also be able to have the benefit of home charging of EV's. In order to minimize cost, charging stations should be installed during construction as well, since it is far cheaper to install a charger *before* a parking lot is paved rather than *after*.

Thank you for your time,

Scott Wilson