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Baltimore and Howard Counties

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee

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Joint Committee on Ending Homelessness

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Support SB 474: Vehicle Laws - Plug-In Electric Drive Vehicles - Reserved Parking Spaces

The Issue:

- Electric vehicle drivers have limited access to parking spaces with charging stations.
- Law enforcement currently can not ticket or tow a non-electric vehicle that is parked in a parking space designated for electric drive vehicles.
- Instances of violence and vandalism against vehicles that are improperly parked in electric vehicle parking spaces and against the equipment around these spaces have been reported.

What Does SB 474 Do?

- Prohibits a person from stopping, standing, or parking a non-electric vehicle in a plug-in electric vehicle parking space.
- Establishes standards for signage and pavement markings of plug-in electric vehicle parking spaces.
- Authorizes a private parking facility to tow or remove vehicles which violate this provision. Public parking facilities would be able to ticket, tow, or remove vehicles in violation of this provision.
- Establishes a \$50 fine for violators.

Additional Background Information:

- 13 states Colorado, Oregon, Illinois, Florida, Hawaii, Washington State, Arizona, California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, North Dakota, and Nevada have similar laws.
- Within Maryland: Montgomery County, Howard County, Baltimore County, and Emmittsburg all have related local laws.
- Seven additional jurisdictions around the country: Washington DC, Seattle, Raleigh, Knoxville, Rehoboth Beach, Kirkland, and Salt Lake City, have enacted similar laws.
- For more information on the legislative efforts occurring in states and local jurisdictions, see: https://pluginsites.org/plug-in-vehicle-parking-legislation-reference/