



TO: Members, House Environment & Transportation Committee
FROM: Paul Pinsky - Director, MEA
SUBJECT: HB 7 - Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Rebate Program – Renewal
DATE: February 2, 2023

MEA Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

House Bill 7 would reinstate, in law, the Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) Rebate Program within MEA, and guarantee a certain level of annual funding providing a strong market signal and greater market certainty aiding in the transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEVs).

The EVSE program has been, and continues to be a popular and effective program within MEA to help spur the adoption of ZEVs. Having access to EVSE is key to ZEV adoption, and the program combats this head-on, offering thousands of rebates per fiscal year. Though MEA has continued to operate the program without a legislative mandate, it is well understood committing publicly to those continued efforts has value in the marketplace.

The structure of the Program is slightly altered by the bill, removing “retail service station dealer” from the program. This category of applicant has been nearly nonexistent in the many years the program has operated. Since retail service station dealers will still be able to apply under § 9-2009(d)(2) as a “business entity”, there is no reason to continue the use of a special offering specifically for retail service station dealers.

MEA is supporting a sponsor amendment that eliminates § 9-2009(c)(2). This paragraph would actually continue to limit MEA’s reach in supporting the State’s ZEV goal, and runs contrary to the intent of the bill.

MEA thanks the sponsor for working so closely with MEA on the development of this important legislation. For the foregoing reasons, MEA urges the committee to issue a **favorable report as amended**.