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Legislative District 15  
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Economic Matters Committee  
Chair  
Property and Casualty Insurance  
Subcommittee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Delegate Kumar P. Barve  
Chairman, House Environment and Transportation Committee  
House Office Building – Room 251  
Annapolis, Md 21401

Mr. Chairman,

I am writing in support of my bill, HB-0007, which renews the Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) Rebate Program.

State and federal incentive programs significantly increase demand for electric vehicles (EVs). Over the last ten years, 60,000 Marylanders have transitioned to driving EVs.<sup>1</sup> These vehicles require an adequate charging infrastructure, which is invigorated by consumer rebate programs like the EVSE Program.

The EVSE Rebate Program reduces the financial burden of acquiring and installing charging stations to increase EV expansion and help Maryland achieve our greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals.<sup>2</sup>

The Program currently offers rebates to cover forty percent of the costs associated with acquiring and installing charging equipment for residential and commercial customers.<sup>3</sup> HB 0007 extends the EVSE Rebate Program until Fiscal Year 2027, incentivizing both residential and commercial customers to install EV chargers while the program still exists.

This successful program is also statutorily underfunded. Each year, the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) exhausting all funds before all qualified applicants receive their rebate. HB 0007 raises the amount the MEA can spend through the rebate program *from no more* than \$1.8

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<sup>1</sup> Austin Igleheart, *State Policies Promoting Hybrid and Electric Vehicles*. *Energy*, NAT'L CONF. STATE LEG. (Apr. 26, 2022), <https://www.ncsl.org/energy/state-policies-promoting-hybrid-and-electric-vehicle>

<sup>2</sup> Maryland Energy Administration, *Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) Rebate Program*. *Incentives*, MEA (n.d.), [https://energy.maryland.gov/transportation/pages/incentives\\_evse rebate.aspx](https://energy.maryland.gov/transportation/pages/incentives_evse rebate.aspx)

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*, at 1

million *to at least* \$2 million. Funding will start at \$2 million and can be increased as applicants continue to request rebates and as additional appropriations are made available.

It is also critically important that we incentivize EV charger installation equitably. Charging stations are not distributed equitably across the state, with notable gaps in underserved communities in Prince George's County, Cumberland, and on the Eastern Shore.<sup>4</sup> That is why HB 0007 allows the MEA more flexibility to offer benefits for the installation of charging equipment in multifamily housing, planned urban developments, and condominiums located in environmental justice communities. The transition to a clean energy future is happening now; the policies we enact today will determine whether that transition is just, equitable, and creates prosperity for all.

Thank you for your time, and I hope to receive your support for HB 0007.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Fraser-Hidalgo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a stylized "D" and "F".

Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo

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<sup>4</sup> Jan-Michael Archer M.S. and Sacoby Wilson Ph.D., MD EJSCREEN v2.0, Maryland Department of the Environment (n.d.), <https://p1.cgis.umd.edu/ejscreen/> ; *See also* Maryland Energy Administration, Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) Rebate Program Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) (n.d.), [FY23 EVSE Rebate Program FOA 11-23-22.docx \(maryland.gov\)](#)