



Testimony to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
SB 1065 Motor Vehicles - Registration – Annual Surcharge  
**Position: Favorable**

February 19, 2024

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair  
3 West, Miller State Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Chair Guzzone and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

I have been an Electric Vehicle (EV) owner since 2011 having experience with five EV makes/models. For over a decade I have been a part of and observing EV adoption in Maryland and across the United States. As such, I know it is important for me and fellow EV owners to pay a *fair share* of road taxes.

That said, the question becomes “What is my fair share?”

My understanding is that SB 1065 proposes to add an annual registration surcharge of \$100 for EV/PHEV. I also understand that the Transportation Revenue and Infrastructure Needs (TRAIN) commission was established to look into issues such as this and other questions but their recommendation report will not be delivered until the end of 2024. Meanwhile the multi-billion dollar shortfall in the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) looms.

I am in favor of this bill because it ensures all vehicle owners across the state share in addressing the pressing issues of the TTF shortfall while addressing the position that EVs don't pay gas taxes espoused by opponents of EVs. Given that the current gas tax approach rewards drivers of high MPG gas cars and higher MPG cars are seen as a good thing, so should drivers of EVs be rewarded as well. EVs have the highest MPG equivalents on the road today while eliminating tailpipe emissions at the same time, an undeniable public health benefit. This added benefit needs to count for something.

SB 1065's approach could be a bridge, dealing with the TTF issue in the short term while allowing time for the TRAIN commission complete their analysis and make recommendations based on real data.

Increased consumer demand for EVs has the EV adoption train leaving the station, now let's see the TRAIN commission arrive with a final report before additional changes are made to title and registration fees or new fees are legislated for EVs and gasoline vehicles alike.

Respectfully,

Joyce K. Breiner, CC-P®

