

Testimony to the Senate Education, Energy and Environment Committee
SB 695 Building Code - Construction and Significant Renovation of Housing Units -
Electric Vehicle Parking Spaces
Position: Favorable

29 February 2024

The Honorable Brian Feldman, Chair
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Chair Feldman and Members of the Senate Education, Energy and
Environment Committee:

My name is Scott Wilson, and I currently serve on the Maryland Zero Emission Electric
Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC). I am also vice president of the Electric Vehicle
Association of Greater Washington DC (EVADC). I support the passage of SB 695 for
the following reasons.

As Marylanders are discovering, one of the many advantages of owning an electric
vehicle is being able to charge it at home. Next to free public charging, it is almost
always 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, so my daily driving cost in my EV is about one-third of what it would otherwise be.

It is thus vitally important that during significant renovation of single-family and multi-
family housing, as defined by the bill, we do not lose the opportunity to install at least the
electric capacity to enable the type of home charging enjoyed by single-family
homeowners, when that installation will be the least expensive. To minimize cost, EV
charging capacity and/or chargers should be installed when electric capacity is being
upgraded or when parking upgrades involve repaving or trenching in or around parking
spaces since it is far cheaper to install hardware *before* a parking lot is paved rather than
after, or when trenching occurs anyway.

Pre-wiring with a minimum 208V line and installing an EVSE during renovation are the
best way to ensure that, as EV adoption increases, current and future single-family and
multi-family residents can fully benefit from the EV opportunity in the least expensive
way possible.

Thank you for your time,

Scott Wilson