



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 14th, 2024

SB465: Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Act of 2024

Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Waldstreicher, Members of the Committee,

I am before you today to speak about SB465: Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Act of 2024. This is a small follow-up bill to the *Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment for Multifamily Units Act* that was sponsored by Environment and Transportation Chair Korman and B&T Chair Guzzonne in 2021 that this Committee and the Senate passed unanimously.

Chair Korman's crossfile of this bill passed out of the House on third reader yesterday. I know the Committee vote was unanimous.

As a reminder, and for those of us new to this Committee, the 2021 legislation:

1. Established that any application for an electric vehicle charger to be installed in a condo association must be given the same process as any other architectural change application that would be submitted to the condo board or association for approval.
2. Required the application be approved if certain conditions outlined in the statute are met.

SB465 is a follow up to this law. It does four simple things:

1. Expands the current law that applies to condos to include co-ops
2. Adds provisions for charging stations of electric bicycles
3. Requires the *Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development* to maintain information relevant to the bill on its website and have a point of contact that can answer constituent questions on the process
4. A sponsor amendment makes it explicit that the charger owner must maintain insurance for the electric vehicle charger for the duration that it is installed

This bill will advance Maryland's efforts to combat climate change and reduce emissions. In order to remain on track for Maryland's emissions and EV goals listed for both 2025 and 2050, the *Maryland Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council* laid out two objectives: install more electric vehicle chargers and ensure equitable placement of those chargers. The legislation will ensure we are not leaving out certain housing communities that can contribute to our state's EV goals and will help Maryland achieve equitable and sustainable distribution of electric chargers.

Today, you will hear from our Scott Wilson of the Mid-Atlantic EV Legislative Taskforce (MELT), Karen Straughn of the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division, Ashley Clark representing the Community Associations Institute, and Lanny Hartmann, an advocate for electric vehicles and related legislation.

Thank you for your time today, and I urge a favorable report on SB465.