

March 5, 2024

The Honorable Luke Clippinger  
Chair, House Judiciary Committee  
101 House Office Building  
Annapolis MD 21401

**RE: Letter of Information – House Bill 1428 – Public Safety – Electric Vehicle Charging Station Safety Commission**

Dear Chair Clippinger and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) offers the following information on House Bill 1428 for the Committee’s consideration.

House Bill 1428 would establish the Electric Vehicle Charging Station Safety Commission, which would be tasked with developing policy recommendations to increase safety for vehicle owners and passengers and reduce violent crime and theft at electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. The Commission would be required to submit recommendations annually to the General Assembly for a ten-year period, beginning in December 2025.

In 2011, the Maryland General Assembly established the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (EVIC). In 2019, the Council was renamed Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC), and membership, responsibilities, and reporting requirements were expanded to include zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) and fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs). The ZEEVIC is charged with developing policies, recommendations, and incentives that increase awareness, promote investment, and facilitate the successful integration of ZEVs into Maryland’s transportation network. The ZEEVIC submits an Annual Report to the Governor and General Assembly, summarizing its work and timely recommendations.

The ZEEVIC could provide a forum for addressing safety for EVs on roads and in charging situations. To address timely topics relevant to ZEV infrastructure, ZEEVIC convenes working groups to hear from technical experts, facilitate discussion, and develop recommendations. Recently, ZEEVIC working groups have been tasked with developing recommendations for medium- and heavy-duty ZEV infrastructure, interagency coordination, and the development of a ZEV Policy Scorecard. A ZEEVIC working group could be convened to address EV charging safety concerns.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information when deliberating House Bill 1428.

Respectfully submitted,

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