

Clean Transportation Technologies and Solutions

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March 10, 2025

Maryland General Assembly
House Transportation and Energy Committee
Legislative Services Building
90 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Protect Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) in Maryland (Oppose HB 1258 and HB 1556)

Dear Committee Members,

For more than 30 years, it's been CALSTART's mission to develop, assess, and implement large-scale zero-emission transportation solutions to mitigate climate change and support economic growth. We work with businesses, organizations, governments, and communities to create real-life impacts towards clean air and equitable access to clean transportation for all.

The Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) rule is designed to accelerate a large-scale transition to zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles (ZE-MHDVs) by requiring manufacturers to increase model availability, which helps meet the needs of fleet operators across multiple vehicle classes and further develops the market for these vehicles in Maryland. Since the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) adopted the regulation in December 2023, investments by the clean transportation sector and vehicle deployments have only continued to expand and flourish.

In January 2025, CALSTART released its 6th annual Zeroing on Zero Emission Trucks Report showing over 1,000 zero-emission ZE-MHDVs were deployed across the state (as of June 2024), making Maryland a leader in deployments in the region. Not only is Maryland a trailblazer in terms of ZET deployments, but the state continues to make impressive strides in standing up complementary programs such as the Maryland's Medium-Duty and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Grant Program, utility incentives, and the state's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) cooperative, proceeds which the state uses to support clean transportation solutions.

With a sustained commitment to smart, targeted policies, Maryland can be a national leader for innovation and high-tech manufacturing in this sector. Delaying or undermining the implementation of the ACT rule would jeopardize the significant progress Maryland has already achieved in deploying zero-emission technologies, attracting investment, and creating clean energy jobs. It would also send a troubling signal to businesses and communities relying on clear, consistent policies to guide their transition to cleaner transportation solutions.

There is a better way forward. Maryland can lead the nation in clean vehicle innovation and high-tech manufacturing, paving the way for a healthier, more sustainable future. We



urge you to strongly oppose HB 1258 and HB 1556 and to stand firm in support of the ACT rule to ensure Maryland remains at the forefront of clean transportation progress.

Sincerely,

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