

Testimony Against HB1496

Honorable Delegates

Please enter an unfavorable report against HB1496.

I am against

- requiring the construction of new multifamily residential buildings with separate garages, carports, or driveways for each residential unit to include certain parking spaces for electric vehicle charging;
- requiring certain significant renovations of housing units with separate garages, carports, or driveways for each residential unit to include certain parking spaces for electric vehicle recharging.

I do not believe that the State should impose on builders a requirement to include parking places designated for electric vehicle charging. It is bad enough that existing law already requires builders to place an expensive car charger in new single family housing developments.

The fiscal note states the following is existing law. If the construction of a new housing unit includes a separate garage, carport, or driveway for each residential unit, the construction of a new housing unit must include in or on the garage, carport, or driveway (1) one EVSE-installed parking space capable of providing at least Level 2 charging or (2) or one EV-ready parking space.

The fiscal note has the following additional information. Small Business Effect: Small home builders, particularly those involved with multifamily residential buildings, likely incur greater costs to install the infrastructure needed to comply with the bill's requirements, although any such costs are likely passed on to home buyers. **As a result, the cost of new and significantly renovated housing units likely increases.**

In these tough times, I hear the constant need for affordable houses. I would imagine that many multifamily housing projects are geared for lower income buyers who probably cannot afford electric vehicles. Mandating EV parking spots with expensive EV chargers for a group that may not even own electric vehicles does not make sense.

So please enter an unfavorable report against HB1496

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