

**Committee: Environment and Transportation**  
**Testimony on: HB 0451 Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council – Reporting and Sunset Extension**  
**Submitted by: Donald M. Goldberg, Executive Director**  
**Position: Favorable**  
**Hearing Date: February 12, 2026**

Dear Chairman and Co-chair:

Climate Law & Policy Project (CLPP) is a Maryland-based nonprofit research organization that works to develop and promote sound and safe policies to slow, stop, and ultimately reverse the buildup of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and ensure that vulnerable communities are protected from climate impacts that cannot be avoided. CLPP supports HB0451.

According to Maryland's Zero Emission Vehicle Report (2024), As of 2024 there were approximately 130,000 EVs on Maryland's roads. This is only one tenth what is needed to achieve Advanced Clean Cars II and Climate Solutions Now Act goals.

Marylanders need a substantial network of public, faster chargers. As of 2024, Maryland had about 5,000 public charging ports in the state. MDOT estimates that we will need about nine times that many by 2031.

The Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council is vital to meeting Advanced Clean Car II and Climate Solutions Now Act goals. HB0451 would simply extend the work of the Council, requiring it to submit interim reports and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly in each year through 2031 and a final report of its work and recommendations by June 30, 2031.

CLPP respectfully urges a favorable report on this bill.