

HOUSE BILL 1176

R5

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By: **Delegates Foley, Fraser–Hidalgo, Hill, and Spiegel**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicles – Plug-In Electric Drive Vehicles in HOV Lane – Termination**
3 **Date**

4 FOR the purpose of extending the termination date of a provision of law that authorizes
5 certain plug-in electric drive vehicles to use high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes
6 regardless of the number of passengers in the vehicles; and generally relating to the
7 use of HOV lanes by plug-in electric drive vehicles.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Transportation
10 Section 25–108
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Chapter 121 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2023
15 Section 2

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Transportation**

19 25–108.

20 (a) In this section, “HOV lane” means a high occupancy vehicle lane designated
21 by the State Highway Administration whose use is restricted by a traffic control device
22 during specified times to vehicles carrying at least a specified number of occupants.

23 (b) This section applies only to a plug-in electric drive vehicle that has a
24 maximum speed capability of at least 65 miles per hour.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (c) A plug-in electric drive vehicle for which a permit has been applied for and
2 obtained from the Administration under this section may use an HOV lane at all times
3 regardless of the number of passengers in the vehicle.

4 (d) (1) The Administration, the State Highway Administration, and the
5 Department of State Police may consult to design a permit to designate a vehicle as a
6 plug-in electric drive vehicle authorized to use an HOV lane.

7 (2) The Administration shall charge a fee, not to exceed \$20, for issuing a
8 permit under this section.

9 (3) The Administration, on the recommendation of the State Highway
10 Administration, may limit the number of permits issued to ensure HOV lane operations are
11 not degraded to an unacceptable level.

12 (e) On or before January 1 each year, the Administration and the State Highway
13 Administration jointly shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the
14 State Government Article, the General Assembly on the effect of the use of the plug-in
15 electric drive vehicle permits issued under this section on the operation of HOV lanes in
16 the State.

17 **Chapter 121 of the Acts of 2023**

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
19 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
20 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to
21 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
22 enacted. It shall remain effective through September 30, [2025] 2030, and, at the end of
23 September 30, [2025] 2030, this Act, with no further action required by the General
24 Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
26 1, 2025.