

**HB 232**  
**Annapolis Green**  
**Speaking in Favor of the Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council –**  
**Reporting, Membership, and Sunset Extension Act**

Good afternoon. My name is Elvia Thompson and I am Co-founder and President of Annapolis Green, a local nonprofit that advocates for sustainability and protection of the environment including driving electric as an effective way to reduce fossil fuel emissions to mitigate Climate Change effects. My office is at State Circle and Maryland Avenue. You probably pass it every day during session.

I am also the Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC) representative of the Baltimore Washington Electric Vehicle Initiative, known as BEVI. BEVI is now a part of the Electric Vehicle Association of Greater DC, of which I am a member and Board Secretary. I have been driving electric for four years and am proud that my car does not use fossil fuels and does not pollute the air.

This testimony is written to support House Bill 232, the Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council – Reporting, Membership, and Sunset Extension Act.

As I just mentioned, BEVI is no longer a separate organization; it is now the education arm of the Electric Vehicle Association of Greater DC. Therefore, redesignation of the BEVI “seat” on ZEEVIC with a “seat” for the driver stakeholders and the addition of an additional representative of the environmental community on ZEEVIC is the right thing to do in this bill.

The purpose of ZEEVIC is to develop policies, recommendations, and incentives that increase awareness of zero emission vehicles, support their ownership, and promote investment by the private sector to promote and facilitate the successful integration into Maryland’s transportation network.

Maryland is doing this to reduce the carbon footprint of our state’s transportation system – public and private – one vehicle at a time. The voices of those who drive electric – early adopters if you will – are vital in this effort. Similarly, the voices of those who dedicate their lives to protection of the environment must be heard. I am pleased that the wording in this bill supports this.

I am also pleased that the bill calls for yearly reporting through 2025, the year in which Maryland has pledged to enable 300,000 electric vehicles to be on the road in our state. I look forward to those interim reports and the final report the bill requires to be completed by June 30, 2026.

I look forward to the day when our roads contain no toxic vehicle exhaust and when we can all drive without guilt knowing that our trips to the grocery store or to the beach or the mountains will not result in a carbon load on our fragile atmosphere.

I urge you to support this bill as presented.

Elvia Thompson  
92 Maryland Avenue  
Annapolis, Maryland 20401