



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

Environmental Protection and Restoration
Environmental Education

House Bill 784

Residential Construction – Electric Vehicle Charging

Date: March 31, 2021
To: Senate Education, Health and
Environmental Affairs Committee

Position: **SUPPORT**
From: Robin Jessica Clark,
Maryland Staff Attorney

Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) **SUPPORTS** HB 784, which will expand availability of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging in new residential construction and help to reduce greenhouse gases that create additional challenges for the Chesapeake Bay's clean-up.

Electric vehicle charging options in new homes could be a building block for electric vehicle adoption in Maryland

According to Maryland Department of Motor Vehicles, as of January 2021 there are over 25,000 electric vehicles registered in the state.¹ Maryland has made significant strides in the reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, working towards the goal of 300,000 zero emission vehicles on the road by 2025.² HB 784 will help the State of Maryland meet these goals by requiring a builder of new housing to provide buyers with electric vehicle charging options for their homes. The lack of plug-in options can be a stumbling block to electric vehicle purchases. This legislation could be a building block allowing for additional electric vehicle adoption by Maryland residents.

Electric vehicles support the Bay's clean-up through reducing greenhouse gas emissions

The burning of fossil fuels in vehicle engines emits nitrogen oxides that contribute to nitrogen pollution of the Chesapeake Bay as the particles dissolve into rainfall. Electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid vehicles that use electricity instead of gasoline or diesel help reduce greenhouse gas and nitrogen oxide emissions. Climate change has created an additional challenge for the Bay's clean-up. In 2022 the State must create a plan to address 1.1 million more pounds of nitrogen pollution as a result of greenhouse gas-induced climate change. Increased adoption of electric vehicles will reduce Maryland's greenhouse gas emissions and help address the localized effects of nitrogen pollution into the Bay.

CBF urges the Committee's FAVORABLE HB 784. For more information, please contact Robin Jessica Clark, Maryland Staff Attorney at rclark@cbf.org or 443.995.8753.

¹ [MDOT/MVA Electric and Plug-in Hybrid Vehicle Registrations by County as of each month end from July 2020 to January 2021](#), Maryland Open Data Portal, last visited 2.12.2021.

² [ZEV MOU, Zero Emission Vehicles](#), Maryland Department of Environment, last visited 2.12.2021.

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