



**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**SB 137 Maryland Transit Administration – Conversion to Zero-Emissions Buses (Zero-Emissions Bus Transition Act)**

**POSITION: Support**

**BY: Lois Hybl and Richard Willson – Co-Presidents**

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The League of Women Voters (LWV) supports legislation that promotes the control of climate change as well as encourages the use of renewable resources. Legislative mandates like purchasing zero-emissions buses to aid in the transition to an all zero-emissions bus fleet are a prime example as to how Maryland can promote good environmental policies in the transportation sector.

SB 137 incorporates the important aspect of evaluation of this new program into the bill. Maryland should be making decisions based on technological improvements in the transportation system with measurements. Changes may be made using new technologies in buses and the state should take advantage of these for good environmental stewardship so good decisions may be made based on facts.

The League of Women Voters of Maryland (LWVMD) has positions to encourage the abatement of emissions from mobile sources. These positions encourage the reduction of energy consumption and help to protect our natural resources.

LWVMD promotes the use of mass transit and alternative travel modes for a healthier environment. By incorporating new technology into mass transit as one would by increasing our zero-emission bus fleet, we see a win for Maryland's environment.

We urge a favorable report on SB 137.