

January 28, 2020

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve House Environment and Transportation Committee House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB 44 - Clean Cars Act of 2021

Dear Chairman Barve:

The Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council ("ZEEVIC" or "Council") has reviewed the contents of HB 44 and determined that the intent of the bill supports both the mission of ZEEVIC and the State's goals for electric vehicle ("EV") promotion and proliferation to help address climate change and improve air quality.

ZEEVIC was established through legislation introduced in 2011 as part of a package of bills to promote EVs in the State of Maryland. ZEEVIC's mission is to: evaluate incentives for the ownership of EVs and the purchase of EV charging equipment; develop recommendations for a statewide infrastructure plan; and, propose policies to promote the successful integration of EVs into Maryland's communities and the transportation system.

As introduced, HB 44 would extend and alter the Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Rebate program, address authorized uses of the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund, and make adjustments to excise taxes for zero-emission plug-in or plug-in electric drive hybrid vehicles.

ZEEVIC supports the intent of this bill, which we understand to be to ensure the long-term sustainability of Maryland's EV excise tax credit. The Council's Legislative Working Group appreciates that the Legislature is considering how to achieve such long-term sustainability, and we look forward to reviewing future legislative efforts regarding electric vehicles.

Respectfully,

Kevin George Miller

Chair, Legislative Working Group

**ZEEVIC**