



# CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

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Environmental Protection and Restoration  
Environmental Education

## House Bill 784

### Residential Construction – Electric Vehicle Charging

Date: February 16, 2021  
To: House Environment and Transportation  
Committee

Position: **Support**  
Contact: Robin Jessica Clark  
Maryland Staff Attorney

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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.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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](mailto:rclark@cbf.org) or 443.995.8753.

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<sup>1</sup> [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.

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

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