



House Bill 480

Vehicle Laws – Plug-In Electric Drive Vehicles - Reserved Parking Spaces

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**
WITH AMENDMENTS

Date: February 4, 2021

To: Environment and Transportation
Committee

From: Drew Jabin

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** HB 480 with **AMENDMENTS**. This bill would prohibit parking a vehicle in a space that provides access to a plug-in electric vehicle charging station, unless that vehicle is a plug-in electric drive vehicle. However, in subsequent discussions, the bill sponsor has agreed to offer amendments that would address MACo's concerns.

The bill, as drafted, also requires certain signage and green markings to mark spaces accordingly, and authorizes local governments to have a vehicle towed or removed if it is in violation of the bill's restrictions.

MACo does not contest the effort to make this violation a statewide offense. In fact, many counties already enforce this under local laws. However, using green paint markings violates the U.S. Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), adopted into Federal law under 23 C.F.R 665 and adapted into the Maryland MUTCD pursuant to Maryland Code, Transportation Article, Section 25-104. MUTCD, Section 3A.05 states, "Markings shall be yellow, white, red, blue, or purple." In subsequent discussions, the bill sponsor has agreed to offer amendments that would address MACo's concerns.

MACo respectfully requests that the Committee adopt amendments offered by the sponsor addressing these issues and requests a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS** report on HB 480.