



**Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Office of the Secretary**

6852 4th Street, Sykesville, Maryland 21784
(410) 339-5000 – TOLL FREE 877-379-8636 • www.dpscs.maryland.gov

STATE OF MARYLAND

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BILL: HOUSE BILL 94

POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION

EXPLANATION: This bill requires the Department to convert its passenger vehicles to zero-emission vehicles by 2031 and light truck vehicles by 2036. Beginning in fiscal years 2023 – 2025 at least 25% of the vehicles are to be replaced; FY 2026 – 2027, 50% of vehicles are to be replaced and by 2028, 100% of State passenger vehicles are required to have been replaced with zero emission vehicles. Further, the bill will require that the Department of General Services (DGS) ensure the development of charging infrastructure to support the operation of zero emission vehicles in the State vehicle fleet.

COMMENTS:

- The Department recognizes the value and overall benefits of zero emission vehicles; however, the requirements of the bill would be difficult to implement under the proposed timeline and will have a significant fiscal and operational impact.
- HB 94 will impact the Department's Division of Correction, the Division of Parole and Probation, Maryland Correctional Enterprises, and its other units as the Department will be required to replace over 1,000 vehicles, many of which are not available as ZEV.
- The Department's Division of Correction (DOC) operates 13 State correctional facilities that house offenders sentenced to incarceration for 18 months and longer. The Department also runs the Baltimore City Pretrial Complex which houses pretrial detainees and inmates sentenced to incarceration for 18 months and less.
- The Department oversees the Division of Parole & Probation (DPP), which supervises individuals within the community who are either awaiting trial, placed on supervised probation, have been paroled by the Maryland Parole Commission, or placed on Mandatory

Supervision upon release under the authority of the Maryland Parole Commission. DPP also supervises Marylanders who have been court-ordered into the Drinking Driver Monitor Program.

- Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE) operates businesses within the prison system, including the manufacturing of goods for government entities and non-profits. Main aspects of the mission of MCE include providing structured training and employment activities for offenders in order to improve employability upon release, enhancing safety and security, and reducing prison idleness.
- The Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services currently has 364 gas powered sedans. The cost for a 2021 Chevy Bolt is \$28,883 each; it currently costs \$17,498 for a 2021 gas powered sedan. Requiring the Department to replace the 364 gas powered sedans for an electric powered vehicle, would result in an increase of **\$4,144,140** in the budget to replace. Without additional funding, the Department's fleet would be reduced from 364 gas powered vehicles to roughly 225 electric vehicles.
- The Department does not currently have charging stations, and would need to work with DGS to purchase them to accommodate the electric powered vehicles. As charging typically happens overnight, vehicles cannot share charging stations. In 2020, the cost for a charging station was \$5,000 each. This would cost **\$1,820,000** to purchase charging stations for each vehicle. The potential impact if HB 94 was to pass is **\$5,964,140**.
 - The Department is currently scheduled to receive electric vehicles and the Department of General Services has agreed to fund the costs related to the charging stations to be located in Jessup and the Eastern Correctional Institution.
- The cost to purchase and install charging stations does not include the required continuous maintenance, which was estimated in 2021 to be approximately \$191,250.00 on an annual basis.
- Maintenance technicians servicing the fleet will be required to receive new training and will most likely require new tools, equipment and parts. A quantifiable estimate is not available for these costs.
- Many of the vehicles in the Department's fleet of 1,068 are specialized vehicles and procured on specific-based specifications and not on standard specifications. More than half the vehicles in the Department's fleet are not currently available in a ZEV model;

therefore, for projected replacement cost cannot be determined for the following vehicles: dump trucks, truck tractors, ADA vehicles, buses, cargo vans, minivans, box trucks, and box trailers.

CONCLUSION: For these reasons, the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services respectfully requests the Committee consider this information as it deliberates House Bill 94.