



# CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

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Environmental Protection and Restoration  
Environmental Education

## Senate Bill 627

State Building Code – Electric Vehicles

Date: February 15, 2022

Position: **Support**

To: Education, Health and Environmental Affairs

From: Josh Kurtz, MD Executive Director

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Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 627, which repeals existing building codes around electric vehicle (EV) charging and replaces them with a requirement for the Department of Labor to develop regulations that would require certain percentages of parking spaces on new buildings and significantly renovated buildings to accommodate EV charging stations.

### **Electrification of the private vehicle fleet is critical for meeting our state greenhouse gas emission goals and supporting the Bay Blueprint.**

The transportation sector is responsible for 32.1 MMT CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions or around 40% of total emissions in the state of Maryland.<sup>1</sup> Electrification of the vehicle fleet is the primary way to reduce these emissions. Not only does reducing this emission source reduce greenhouse gas emission goals but it helps meet the Chesapeake Bay Blueprint and improve water quality because fossil fuel-powered vehicles also emit NO<sub>x</sub>. NO<sub>x</sub> accounts for 1/3 of the total nitrogen deposition into the Bay.

### **SB 627 aims to tackle a significant hurdle to the electrification of our private vehicle fleet.**

One of the hurdles to residents purchasing electric vehicles for personal use is finding a charging location, especially for those Marylanders who live in multi-family housing. By ensuring a certain percentage of parking spots accommodate electric vehicles there will be greater assurances for Marylanders interested in moving to electric vehicles to meet their transportation needs. Maryland has seen a steady growth in EVs since they came on the market with 26,672 on the road at the end of FY21.<sup>2</sup> This legislation also takes action to incentivize DC or fast charging stations, which accommodate more vehicles and are more efficient.

**CBF urges the Committee's FAVORABLE report on SB 627.** For more information, please contact Robin Jessica Clark, Maryland Staff Attorney, at [rclark@cbf.org](mailto:rclark@cbf.org) and 443.995.8753.

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<sup>1</sup> Maryland Department of the Environment, [The 2030 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act Plan](#), last visited February 14, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council, [Annual Report 2020](#), last visited February 14, 2022.  
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