

May 23, 2022

**Testimony on SB 687–
Zero-Emission Truck Act of 2022
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee**

Position: Favorable

We, the undersigned 39 Maryland-based scientists, researchers, health professionals, economists, engineers, and planners respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of SB 687, the Zero-Emission Truck Act of 2022, and encourage a favorable report from the Committee.

Not only are medium- and heavy-duty trucks and school buses a climate issue for Maryland, but they are also [a major public health problem](#). Diesel pollution is responsible for dangerous levels of nitrogen oxide and fine particulate matter that increases the risk of severe respiratory illnesses and other health problems. Studies continue to link long-term exposure to fine particulate matter with an [increased risk of death](#) from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The good news is that zero-emission trucks are already becoming readily available in a wide variety of models and sizes. Battery-electric trucks do not release tailpipe emissions, and when charged on the Maryland electric grid they have [49-67 percent lower](#) lifecycle global warming emissions compared to diesel trucks.

A recent [analysis](#) from the International Council on Clean Transportation shows if Maryland adopts the Zero-Emission Truck Act of 2022, the state could see more than 178,000 zero-emission trucks on the road by 2050. This policy would also bring over \$1.6 billion in public health benefits to our state in that same timeframe, from avoiding over 230 hospital admissions and emergency room visits, 270 premature deaths, and 116,200 cases of minor illnesses.

The Zero-Emission Truck Act of 2022 is a key step in the right direction. By supporting this legislation, you will demonstrate your commitment to cleaner air and a healthier future. Now is the time for Maryland to continue its climate and clean air leadership.

We encourage a FAVORABLE report for this important legislation.

Thank you,

Michele Alexander
Epidemiology
Rockville, MD

Beverly Antonio
Research; Public Health
Centreville, MD

Peter Alexander
Biotechnology and Biochemical Engineering
Woodbine, MD

Sima Bakalian
Pediatrics; Medicine
Rockville, MD

Laura Allen
Nursing; Public Health
Westminster, MD

Kristina Borrer
Molecular Biology; Research Regulation
Silver Spring, MD

Signatures continue the next two pages

Richard Bourgin
Functional Analysis; Mathematics
Savage, MD

William Bridgman
Astronomy; Data Visualization; Physical Science
Silver Spring, MD

Laurette Cucuzza
Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health &
Rights; Public Health
Rockville, MD

Barry Daly
Radiology; Medicine
Hunt Valley, MD

Robert Erdman
Telecommunications; EVs; Engineering
Potomac, MD

Albert Garcia-Romeu
Psychology; Social Sciences
Baltimore, MD

Michael Gnat
Internal Medicine; Medicine
Rockville, MD

John Haresch
Family Medicine; Medicine
Potomac, MD

Gary Hedges
Education; Ecology
Frederick, MD

Erika Hoffeld
Anatomic Pathology; Medicine
Silver Spring, MD

Alice Imlay
Invasive Species Control; Biology
Bryans Road, MD

Marc Imlay
Invasive Species Control; Biology
Bryans Road, MD

Barry Klinger
Climate; Physical Oceanography
Potomac, MD

Raymond LeVesque
Spacecraft Contamination Control; Engineering
Columbia, MD

Ted Llana
Immunology; Biology
Lexington Park, MD

Edward Maibach
Climate Change; Public Health
Potomac, MD

Suhas Malghan
Electric Vehicles; Engineering
Baltimore, MD

Elizabeth Maloney
Epidemiology; Public Health
Rockville, MD

Allison McDaniel
Genetics; Life Science
Germantown, MD

Elizabeth Moore
Computational Fluid Dynamics; Engineering
Gaithersburg, MD

William Reamy
Air Pollution; Engineering
Towson, MD

Elizabeth A. Riley
Mental Health; Medicine
Silver Spring, MD

William Rutter
Mechanical Engineering
Mechanicsville, MD

John Sadler
Nephrology; Medicine
Reisterstown, MD

Gerald Share
High Energy; Physical Science
Silver Spring, MD

Linda Silversmith
Biochemistry
Rockville, MD

Gregory Taylor
Infectious Disease; Medicine
Baltimore, MD

Sara Via
Agroecology; Biodiversity; Soils
Ellicott City, MD

Casey Weiner
Biomedical Engineering
Baltimore, MD

Michael Weinrich
Neurology; Rehabilitation; Biophysics; Medicine
Baltimore, MD

Katherine White
Neonatology; Medicine
Derwood, MD

Brinda Yarlagadda
Energy-Climate-Human Systems Modeling;
Engineering
Silver Spring, MD