



**Committee: Education, Health & Environmental Affairs**  
**Testimony on: SB687 - Dept. of Environment-Zero-Emission Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicles-Regulation (Zero Emission Truck Act of 2022)**  
**Organization: MLC Climate Justice Wing**  
**Submitting: Diana Younts, Co-Chair**  
**Position: Favorable**  
**Hearing Date: February 24, 2022**

Dear Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing our testimony today. The MLC Climate Justice Wing, a statewide coalition of over 50 grassroots and professional organizations, urges you to vote favorably on SB687.

The Advanced Clean Truck Rule requires that vehicle manufacturers sell an increasing annual percentage of medium and heavy duty vehicles including pickup, delivery, and semi trucks as well as school buses between Model Year 2026 (for states that adopt in 2022) and 2035. These vehicles represent 10% of vehicles on the road but disproportionately contribute to 30% of carbon emissions, 45% of toxic nitrogen oxide emissions, and 57% of health harming particulate matter emitted by the entire transportation sector in the U.S.

The transportation sector is Maryland's number one generator of climate-damaging greenhouse gas emissions. Our state's Greenhouse Gas Inventory indicates that gasoline and diesel powered vehicles account for 89% of this pollution.

Tailpipe emissions from these vehicles also are hazardous to human health and contribute to cancers, heart disease, asthma, emphysema and other respiratory diseases. More than 80% of Marylanders live in counties that do not meet federal clean air standards for ozone, due in significant part to tailpipe emissions. Many black and brown communities in Maryland are particularly hard hit with health issues caused by tailpipe pollution due to the cumulative impact created by their proximity to major highways and roadways; and industry polluters such as the Wheelabrator incinerator, land fills, fossil fuel power plants, sub stations, and open coal transfer stations.

In 2013, Maryland joined seven other states in signing a memorandum of understanding committing to have 300,000 zero-emission vehicles (including plug-ins) on the road by 2025,

and 600,000 EVs on the road by 2030. The state also has a goal it set for itself to reduce state greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2030 (compared to the 2006 level). In separate legislation that goal is planned to change to 60% by 2030 and 100% by 2045.

This bill would significantly increase the likelihood the state will be able to meet its greenhouse emission reduction goals and would improve the lives of everyone who live near major roads and highways.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.

**MLC Climate Justice Wing:**

Assateague Coastal Trust  
Bethesda Green  
Maryland Legislative Coalition  
MD Campaign for Environmental Human Rights  
Chesapeake Climate Action Network  
WISE  
Frack Free Frostburg  
Mountain Maryland Movement  
Howard County Indivisible  
Howard County Sierra Club  
Columbia Association Climate change and sustainability advisory committee  
HoCo Climate Action  
CHEER  
Climate XChange - Maryland  
Mid-Atlantic Field Representative/  
National Parks Conservation Association  
350 Montgomery County  
Glen Echo Heights Mobilization  
The Climate Mobilization Montgomery County  
Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions  
Montgomery Countryside Alliance  
Takoma Park Mobilization Environment Committee  
Audubon Naturalist Society  
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church  
Environmental Justice Ministry

Coalition For Smarter Growth  
DoTheMostGood Montgomery County  
MCPS Clean Energy Campaign  
MoCo DCC  
Potomac Conservancy  
Casa de Maryland  
Nuclear Information & Resource Service  
Clean Air Prince Georges  
Laurel Resist  
Greenbelt Climate Action Network  
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland  
Concerned Citizens Against Industrial Cafos  
Wicomico NAACP  
Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Chispa MD  
Climate Law & Policy Project  
Maryland Poor Peoples Campaign  
Labor for Sustainability  
The Nature Conservancy  
Clean Air Prince Georges  
350 Baltimore  
Maryland Environmental Health Network  
Climate Stewards of Greater Annapolis  
Talbot Rising  
Adat Shalom Climate Action  
Chesapeake Earth Holders  
Climate Parents of Prince Georges

Echotopia  
Maryland NAACP State Conference,  
Environmental Justice Committee