



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

SB61--SUPPORT

Maryland Transit Administration - Conversion to Zero-Emission Buses
(Zero-Emission Bus Transition Act Revisions)

2/15/2022

Chairman Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan, members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs committee, my name is Rev. Linda Boyd, and I testify on behalf of the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network. We support SB 61.

Our faith tradition teaches that we are to love and care for God's creation, planet Earth. Thus, we support policies that protect the natural resources and that sustain all life on Earth. We support the adoption of practical ways of reducing our climate impact and living more humbly and gently on Earth. The Episcopal Church calls for policies that mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, promote sustainable energy, the safe and just use of natural resources, and supports communities impacted by a lack of environmental stewardship.

This Bill calls for conversion of the State's transit bus fleet to zero-emissions. Such a step will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, thereby benefiting not only the drivers and riders in the fleet, but also, the entire community. This will help to improve air quality and is consistent with our goals of broader environmental equity and social justice goals around Creation Care. We encourage a favorable report on SB 61.