

February 23, 2022

To: The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee

Re: Letter of Support - House Bill 894, the Transportation Electrification and Modernization (TEAM) Act

Via Email: kumar.barve@house.state.md.us

Dear Chair Barve:

On behalf of Nikola Corporation (Nikola), we would like to submit this letter of support for HB 894, the Transportation Electrification and Modernization (TEAM) Act.

Nikola, a leading designer and manufacturer of heavy-duty commercial battery electric (BEV), fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV), and energy infrastructure solutions, is paving the way as a global leader in zero-emissions transportation. Through a business model that will enable customers to integrate next-generation truck technology and hydrogen fueling infrastructure and maintenance, Nikola and its strategic business partners and suppliers are on a mission to leave the world a better place. Nikola is headquartered in Phoenix, AZ with a national dealer network that covers the state of Maryland.

As a global leader in zero-emissions transportation and infrastructure, Nikola firmly believes programs that incentivize the purchase of zero emission medium and heavy duty (MDHD) vehicles are critical to addressing the overall reduction of carbon emissions from the transportation sector. As a business looking to grow our zero-emission transportation and infrastructure operations in Maryland, we strongly support the provisions in the TEAM Act that will create a medium-and heavy-duty Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) grant and ZEV infrastructure program administered by the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA). Such grants and programs will play a critical role in cultivating and accelerating market and fleet adoption of zero-emission and low-carbon transportation technology.

Additionally, House Bill 894 will further strengthen Maryland's commitment to the Multi-State Medium and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission Vehicle Memorandum of Understanding¹ signed by Governor Hogan along with 14 other states and the District of Columbia in July of 2020. This MOU established an objective of ensuring that 100 percent of all new medium and heavy-duty

¹ https://www.nescaum.org/documents/mhdv-zev-mou_12-14-2021.pdf/

vehicle sales will be ZEV's by 2050, with an interim target of 30 percent ZEV sales by 2030. Legislative actions like the TEAM Act are in direct alignment with the goals established in the MOU and will serve to reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector, stimulate job creation and economic growth, and benefit disadvantaged communities that have been disproportionately exposed to greater levels of pollution.

We respectfully ask for a **favorable** report on HB 894 to pave the way for a cleaner Maryland and look forward to working in collaboration with you and the MEA as this effort moves forward.

Sincerely,

William Higgins
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Nikola Corporation
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