



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

GEORGE C. HOGAN: Business Manager • THOMAS C. MYERS: President • RICHARD D. WILKINSON: Vice President
JOSEPH F. DABBS: Financial Secretary • RICHARD G. MURPHY: Recording Secretary • PAULO C. HENRIQUES: Treasurer



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT WITH AMMENDMENT TO HB 1146 Residential Construction – Electric Vehicle Charging March 1, 2022

To: Hon. Chair Kumar P. Barve, Chair, and members of the Environment & Transportation Committee

From: Tom Clark, Political Director, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 26

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I ask that you **support HB 1146**, with my safety related, easy lift, amendment. This legislation promotes green energy use at its most practical level: at the “front porch” of the average Maryland resident. This is not only what the environment needs, it’s what your constituents want.

HB 1146 answers the green energy needs of everyday commuters. Those that do not have a two-car garage and a Tesla. Mr. and Mrs. Freestate that live in townhomes, pay most of the taxes and want to be environmentally responsible. In the not-too-distant future, most Marylanders will be driving electric vehicles, I salute the sponsors of this bill for trying to solve tomorrow’s residential energy problems today. Imagine if we wait too long to pass this bill: Community yards and parking lots will be littered with extension cords. It will not only be unsightly and bring down the value of the neighborhoods, but it is a safety nightmare. Young children playing in common areas will be exposed to hazardous conditions and possible electrocution. As a licensed electrician, the thought of residents plugging in cord after cord to reach their vehicle, scares me. The everyday layperson does not know the proper use of GFCI protection. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters stops current flow when exposed to water or moisture. (You know it as that funny looking plug in your bathroom or kitchen) It also must me used outside when devices or cords are exposed to weather. HB 1146 answers this all-important safety measure.

As we begin installing electric vehicle chargers throughout the state and especially in residential areas, I highly suggest the use of certified, trained, installers. Therefore, I would like to offer the following amendment to this piece of legislation:

INSTALLATION OF ELECTRICAL VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS MUST BE PERFORMED BY CERTIFIED ELECTRICAL VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE TRAINING PROGRAM (EVITP) INSTALLERS

EVITP or Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program is the accepted certification of manufacturers, the automotive industry and end users throughout the country. Installers must pass a certification exam for proof of knowledge and skill. EVITP is brand neutral, non-profit program taught at Industry Training Centers and Community Colleges in diverse communities, both urban and rural. As we are relatively at the beginning of the electric vehicle charging world, let’s set some minimal standards, for the good of the state.





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In conclusion I believe this bill addresses consumer need and safety. A lot of the green energy legislation before the 2022 session is “feel good” bills, that cater to a special interest, and yield few effective results. This bill helps the environment, Maryland residential communities and the average Maryland citizen. I ask that you include my amendment and fully **support HB 1146**.
Thank you

