



## House Bill 894

### *Transportation Electrification and Modernization (TEAM) Act*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Environment and Transportation and  
Economic Matters Committees

Date: February 25, 2022

From: Dominic J. Butchko

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** HB 894. This bill would reduce emissions from motor vehicles by directing resources to counties to help expand electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and fleet electrification.

Vehicle emissions represent one of the largest sources of air pollutants in most communities; as such, counties recognize the importance of reducing vehicle emissions as part of an effective strategy to fight climate change. For example, a 2020 study found that vehicles accounted for nearly 35% of Baltimore City's total emissions. By encouraging the electrification of both public and private vehicles, and harnessing Maryland's progress toward cleaner sources for our power companies, the State can target one of the most substantial contributors to climate change. While there are some concerns with how electrification may increase pollution from power generation in the short term, as utilities continue to adopt more environmentally friendly technology, the level of harmful emissions is expected to decrease.

HB 894 would support EV charging infrastructure and fleet electrification through several grants and rebate programs. The Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicle Zero Emission Grant Program established under this legislation allows county governments to apply for grants to upgrade their fleets and install any required charging infrastructure. By providing more resources to aid local governments, the State will help to facilitate a faster transition.

This bill would allocate funds to help local governments and private actors convert to fully electric vehicles. By providing additional resources, HB 894 will both ease and quicken the transition from fossil fuels. Accordingly, MACo urges a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 894.