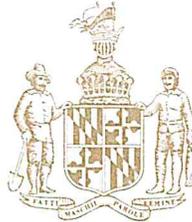


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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
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**HB 1079 VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTOIN PROGRAM – STANDARDS, REQUIREMENTS, AND APPLICATION**

**House Environment & Transportation Committee – March 3, 2022**

HB 1079 will bring the Department of Transportation regulations on vehicle emissions inspections up to date particularly as they pertain to aging hybrid vehicles. More specifically, they will set up a biennial inspection schedule for a hybrid that is more than 7 model years old and having an on-board diagnostic II system.

In addition, this bill authorizes Motor Vehicle Administration to close certain of their test facilities if testing demand falls below a certain threshold and further permit decentralized test facilities equipped to serve the testing demands for these vehicle owners. The bill goes on to allow these decentralized facilities to charge a convenience fee in addition to the inspection fee to perform these tests.

While MVA is developing regulations to address this, this bill is necessary as the MVA does not have the clear statutory authority under current law to make these changes by regulation alone.

As the MVA proceeds with publishing their regulations, scheduling a public hearing on April, 25, 2022, this is after the end of the legislative session. Therefore, it is imperative that the questions surrounding the authority under law be resolved while we are in session.

I urge a favorable report.