



**Committee:** Economic Matters  
**Testimony on:** HB0834 - Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure - Requirements (Electric Vehicle Charging Reliability Act)  
**Organization:** Climate Justice Wing of the Maryland Legislative Coalition  
**Submitting:** Laurie McGilvray, Co-Chair  
**Position:** Favorable  
**Hearing Date:** March 2, 2023

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing our testimony today in support of HB834. The Maryland Legislative Coalition Climate Justice Wing, a statewide coalition of over 50 grassroots and professional organizations, urges you to vote favorably on HB834.

Transportation is Maryland's number one source of greenhouse gas emissions. The State's 2020 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory shows that gasoline and diesel powered on-road and offroad vehicles account for nearly 46 percent of the State's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Transitioning from gas-powered vehicles to electric vehicles (EVs) is a key strategy for the State to reduce GHG emissions and meet its climate goals. Ensuring that all communities have access to convenient and reliable EV charging is essential to this transition.

This bill requires the Public Service Commission (PSC) to expand the Electric Vehicle Pilot Program to allow participating electric companies to install EV charging stations in new and existing multifamily dwellings in underserved communities. Underserved communities are defined as those communities in census tracts with a higher number of low-income residents who are also nonwhite and have limited English-proficiency. The Climate Justice Wing supports policies that benefit underserved communities, and agrees that these communities cannot be left behind in the EV transition. We applaud the bill's sponsor for placing a greater focus on the installation of EV charging in underserved communities.

EV charging reliability is another key ingredient to the successful electrification of the transportation sector. HB834 directs the PSC to require a participating electric company to maintain an adequate number of staff to monitor, assess, and when necessary, repair the EV charging stations operated by the company. The bill also establishes operational and reporting requirements for utility-operated EV charging networks.

HB834 will improve EV charging in underserved communities and strengthen EV charging reliability for all Marylanders. We support HB834 and urge a **FAVORABLE** report.