

February 9, 2022

Testimony on SB 224
Zero-Emission Truck Act of 2022
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Position: Favorable

For the sake of the climate and the health of Maryland residents, we need to take action to reduce pollution from trucks. Trucks and other large vehicles account for 9% of vehicles on the road but contribute 21% of carbon pollution and 48% of particulate matter pollution (PM2.5) emitted by the entire transportation sector in Maryland. This proposed legislation would lead to a requirement that vehicle manufacturers sell an increasing annual percentage of zero-emission trucks and school buses.

I live in Columbia, in a neighborhood that is hemmed in by highways, MD-32, I-95, and US-29. In particular, my home is about a third of a mile from MD-32. The noise from the highways are so loud at my home during rush hour that, if I wake up early in the dark, I can estimate the hour by the amount of highway noise I hear. The Advanced Clean Truck Rule would greatly improve quality of life in my neighborhood by reducing noise and improving air quality.

This legislation would help Maryland follow through on its commitment for 30% of all medium and heavy duty vehicles sales to be electric by 2030 and could create high quality green jobs in the process. Maryland would also be included in the growing number of states adopting the Advanced Clean Truck Rule, including California, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Vermont, Washington, and Oregon.

I encourage a FAVORABLE report for this important legislation.

Ruth Auerbach, Ph.D.
9455 Clocktower Lane
Columbia, MD 21046