



Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman
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The Honorable Brian Feldman, Chairman
And Members of the Committee on Education, Energy and Environment
Senate of Maryland

Re: **SB 0477** – Residential Construction or Significant Renovation – Electric Vehicle Charging - **OPPOSE**

Dear Chairman Feldman and Committee Members,

The Maryland Federation of Republican Women opposes SB 0477 which requires that every new housing unit or any home that installs an upgraded electric panel must install electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) at an estimated cost of \$600 to \$2,000.

Marylanders' rights are being stripped away. The General Assembly is working to limit citizens' ability to choose the home heating system of their choice, whether they can use a wood or gas fireplace, the type of vehicle they can own, the cooking range of their choice, the kind of emergency generators they can own -- all in the name of a perceived climate crisis. SB 0477 will now mandate installation of an EVSE at their home, whether they own an electric vehicle or not.

ENOUGH! Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms mandated in Maryland homes were enacted for safety reasons – to prevent loss of life. There is no safety rationale for an EVSE requirement. This mandate is neither necessary nor justified.

Maryland is leading the nation in responding to climate change. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, Maryland's per capita petroleum consumption is the second lowest among the states. We are doing our part to lower pollution emissions. No one should be forced to install an EVSE if they don't own an electric vehicle.

Maryland should not duplicate the California Air Resources Board's vehicle standards as revised and updated (as required in SB 224 Heavy Duty Trucks). California is not a success story. They experience rolling blackouts during extreme weather events. Massive wildfires caused by failed and inadequate electric transmission systems have destroyed communities. California is not the ideal to emulate.

Maryland needs an energy mix of nuclear, renewable and, yes, fossil fuels. A goal of reliance almost exclusively on a single resource (e.g. renewable energy) is ill-advised. The renewable energy supply can be intermittently diminished or totally unavailable. Thirty-eight percent of all energy currently produced in Maryland is nuclear energy that runs continuously. This is very important during extreme weather events.

Maryland is lacking transmission system capacity sufficient to go all-electric. Offer an incentive to those who want an EVSE but do not mandate installation of an EVSE. Substantial effort must be directed to upgrading Maryland's electric transmission system before mandating EVSEs.

Please vote an **UNFAVORABLE** report for **SB 477**.

Sincerely,
Ella Ennis