



February 13, 2023

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
Delegate, Maryland General Assembly
Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support for HB 550, Maryland Energy Administration – Energy Programs – Modifications (Clean Transportation and Energy Act)

Dear Delegate Barve:

On behalf of the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), I am writing to offer our support for HB 550 that extends the duration of the Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Program.

Climate change is a regional priority for COG, the association of local governments in metropolitan Washington. Additionally, the COG Board of Directors has specifically identified EV deployment as a regional priority and recognizes the need for increased collaboration to support the deployment of EVs and EV charging equipment. Several barriers are currently preventing the accelerated adoption of EVs, including a shortfall in the necessary charging stations. The State of Maryland's Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Rebate Program incentivizes greater deployment of EV charging infrastructure in metropolitan Washington. Furthermore, HB 550 aligns with COG's priority on equity by prioritizing offering benefits to low-income and environmental justice communities.

As such, CEEPC, on behalf of COG, supports the extension of this program, as well as the increase in the total amount of rebates. Please contact Jeffrey King, COG Director of Climate, Energy, and Air Programs, at (202) 962-3238 or jking@mwcog.org if you have any questions. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Takis Karantonis' with a horizontal line underneath.

Takis Karantonis
Chair, Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee

cc: Honorable Dana Stein
Honorable Jackie Addison
Honorable Nick Allen
Honorable Terry L. Baker
Honorable Regina T. Boyce

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
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Honorable Barrie S. Ciliberti
Honorable Debra Davis
Honorable Linda Foley
Honorable Michele Guyton
Honorable Anne Healey
Honorable Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.
Honorable Jay A. Jacobs
Honorable Mary A. Lehman
Honorable Jeffrie E. Long, Jr.
Honorable Sara Love
Honorable Todd B. Morgan
Honorable Ryan Nawrocki
Honorable Charles J. Otto
Honorable Sheila Ruth
Honorable Vaughn Stewart
Honorable Jen Terrasa
Honorable Natalie Ziegler
Honorable David Fraser-Hidalgo