



Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman
Maryland Federation of Republican Women
PO Box 6040, Annapolis MD 21401
Email: eee437@comcast.net

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Chairman
And Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee
Maryland House of Delegates, Annapolis, Maryland

RE: **HB 0487** – Affordable Emissions Standards Act of 2023 – **FAVORABLE**

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members,

The Maryland Federation of Republican Women strongly supports HB 0487 to prohibit the Department of the Environment from adopting the *California Clean Cars II Regulations to Implement New Motor Vehicle Emissions Standards and Compliance Requirements* adopted by the California Air Resources Board unless analyses are prepared on the impact on consumers, small businesses, and the state budget, and the ability of the State's electric grid to accommodate the dramatic increase in demand that will result from mandatory vehicle electrification. Further, HB 0487 requires that a report be submitted to the General Assembly and that implementing the California standards can be accomplished only by the General Assembly enacting a law authorizing its adoption.

Maryland should not duplicate the California Air Resources Board's vehicle standards as revised and updated (as proposed in HB 0230 Heavy Duty Trucks). California is not the ideal to emulate. They experience rolling blackouts during extreme weather events. Massive wildfires caused by failed and inadequate electric transmission systems have destroyed communities.

Maryland needs an energy mix of nuclear, renewable and, yes, natural gas. 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.

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. HB 0830 proposes to mandate installation of an EVSE at every new or renovated home, whether they own an electric vehicle or not.

HB0487 will protect citizens, small businesses and local governments from unreasonable, excessively costly and in some cases unattainable mandates. Please vote a **FAVORABLE** report for **HB 0487**.

Sincerely,



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