



March 27, 2023

House Environment and Transportation Committee  
Maryland General Assembly  
Taylor House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support for SB 224, Department of the Environment - Zero-Emission Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles - Regulations (Clean Trucks Act of 2023)

Dear Delegate Barve, Delegate Stein, and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

On behalf of the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), I am writing in support of SB 224, which requires the Maryland Department of the Environment to adopt regulations on or before December 1, 2023, that establish requirements for the sale of new zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in the State of Maryland.

Climate change is a regional priority for COG, the association of local governments in metropolitan Washington. Medium- and heavy-duty vehicles are responsible for 27 percent of transportation emissions and 10 percent of total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in metropolitan Washington. Electrification of the vehicle fleet is one of the highest impact strategies for reducing GHG emissions between now and 2030. Local policies and programs to accelerate the adoption of zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles, such as those required by SB 224, have the potential to significantly reduce emissions. As such, COG supports the adoption of these zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles requirements.

Please contact Jeffrey King, COG Director of Climate, Energy, and Air Programs at (202) 962-3238 or [jking@mwkog.org](mailto:jking@mwkog.org) if you have any questions. Thank you for 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 Malcolm Augustine  
Honorable Brian Feldman  
Honorable William Smith, Jr.  
Honorable Mary Washington

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Honorable Ronald Watson  
Honorable Craig Zucker