

Testimony to the House Environment and Transportation Committee  
HB 123 Vehicle Laws – HOV Lanes – Plug-In Electric Drive Vehicles  
**Position: Favorable with amendment**

26 January 2023

The Honorable Kumar Barve, Chair  
Room 251, House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Chair Barve and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee:

Our family has been driving electric vehicles since 2012. Our current daily drivers are a 2013 Nissan Leaf and a 2017 Chevy Bolt. I serve on the Maryland Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Council, and I'm Vice President of the Electric Vehicle Association of Greater Washington DC (EVADC). I support passage of HB 123, with an amendment.

The Plug-In Vehicle HOV sticker was an effective perk for new electric vehicle buyers during the time before the program expired. I support reviving the program, and I note that the bill contains language that allows for a cap on the number of stickers that would ensure that the HOV lanes will continue to encourage carpooling.

As an amendment, I would insert language that requires verifying that the make and model listed on the VR-335 application form is that of a qualifying plug-in vehicle. I have personally driven behind vehicles that bore the plug-in vehicle HOV sticker, but that were not in fact plug-in vehicles. The easiest way to verify would be for MVA to check at the time of application if the make and model appears on official lists of such vehicles, such as at [www.fueleconomy.gov](http://www.fueleconomy.gov) (<https://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/taxevb.shtml>).

Thank you for your time,

Scott Wilson