



**The Maryland Department of the Environment
Secretary Serena McIlwain**

HB0487

***Environment-Low-Emissions Vehicle Program-Prohibition (Affordable Emissions
Standards Act of 2023)***

Position: Opposition

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Date: February 24, 2023

From: Gabrielle Leach

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE or the Department) **OPPOSES** House Bill 487.

HB 487 will prevent MDE from immediately adopting regulations to implement California's Advanced Clean Cars II regulation or any other new motor vehicle standards or requirements adopted by California on or after August 24, 2022, until MDE conducts certain analyses, submits the analyses to the General Assembly, and the General Assembly enacts a law authorizing such adoption.

House Bill 487, if enacted, would require violations of current law. The Maryland Clean Cars Act of 2007 (Clean Cars Act) required MDE to follow § 177 of the federal Clean Air Act and adopt regulations implementing the vehicle emissions standards known as the California Clean Car Program in Maryland as of 2011 and subsequent model years. HB 487 leaves this legislative mandate intact, while simultaneously prohibiting MDE from adopting new California standards adopted after August 24, 2022. The Department cannot legally comply with those conflicting directives.

For the reasons detailed above, MDE urges a **UNFAVORABLE** report for HB 487.