

Testimony Regarding SB 532
Maryland Committee on Education, Energy and the Environment
Commission to Advance Lithium-Ion Battery Safety in Maryland
On February 22, 2024, at 1:00PM

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on SB 532, which aims to establish the Commission to Advance Lithium-Ion Battery Safety in Maryland.

Tesla is committed to accelerating the transition to sustainable energy through the deployment of electric vehicles, energy storage, solar energy systems, and charging infrastructure. In 2023, Tesla delivered over 1.8 million electric vehicles (EVs) globally, representing approximately 55% of all EVs sold in the U.S. market last year.¹ Our extensive experience affords us a unique perspective on the mass deployment of products that use Lithium-ion batteries and the most effective policy mechanisms to promote their adoption and safety.

Tesla vehicles and storage products are constructed with safety-first design, and our commitment to battery safety is at the forefront of innovation and reliability. Tesla's advanced battery technology is subject to rigorous testing and validation processes that exceed industry standards, ensuring that our products are among the safest on the market. As a result of our innovation and experience, Tesla has a vested interest in the advancement of lithium-ion battery safety in Maryland. Consequently, Tesla supports SB 532 and suggests the following additions and amendments that will improve representation on the Commission, ensuring that a variety of important voices weigh in during the process:

1. Beyond the representatives specified in SB 532, Tesla recognizes an opportunity for the Commission to include additional stakeholders, which would enhance its composition. **Therefore, we recommend the following modifications to §(b)(2):**
 - (ii) **one representative of a high voltage battery storage system manufacturer;**
 - (iii) **one representative of a vehicle propulsion battery manufacturer;**
 - (iii) **one representative of the vehicle dismantling sector;**
 - (iv) **one representative of a large-propulsion battery recycler;**
 - (v) **one representative of a battery manufacturer trade group; and**
 - (vi) **one representative of a battery recycling trade group.**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

¹ <https://cleantechnica.com/2024/01/14/us-ev-market-grows-29-in-4th-quarter-tesla-holds-56-market-share/>

Respectfully,

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Tesla