

# V O L V O

TO: The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
Members, Senate Education, Energy & the Environment Committee  
Senator Paul D. Corderman

FROM: Richard A. Tabuteau

DATE: February 13, 2024

RE: **FAVORABLE** – Senate Bill 553 – *Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council – Membership*

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The Volvo Group drives prosperity through transport and infrastructure solutions, offering trucks, buses, construction equipment, power solutions for marine and industrial applications, financing and services that increase our customers' uptime and productivity. Founded in 1927, the Volvo Group is committed to shaping the future landscape of sustainable transport and infrastructure solutions. The Volvo Group employs more than 100,000 people worldwide and serves customers in more than 190 markets. Volvo Group North America employs around 14,000 people in the United States and operates 11 manufacturing and remanufacturing facilities in seven states.

In Maryland, Volvo Group North America's Hagerstown Powertrain Production facility employs nearly 2,000 people including over 1,400 members of the UAW Locals 171 and 1247 and is the last major automotive manufacturer in the state. The plant develops, manufactures, and tests heavy-duty powertrains, transmissions and axles for its Mack and Volvo trucks as well as Prevost and Volvo buses at its 280-acre campus. Volvo Group also employs more than 60 people at one of its U.S. parts distribution facilities in Elkridge.

Senate Bill 553 alters the composition of the Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC) to include a representative of a heavy-duty plug-in electric drive vehicle manufacturer. Currently, only a representative of a light-duty plug-in electric drive vehicle manufacturer serves on ZEEVIC.

ZEEVIC was established in 2011 and charged with the development of policies, recommendations, and incentives that increase awareness of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs), support the ownership of ZEVs, and promote investment by the private sector in ZEVs; the development of recommendations for a statewide EV charging and hydrogen refueling infrastructure plan; and the development of other potential policies to promote and facilitate the successful integration of ZEVs into Maryland's transportation network.

Volvo and Mack Trucks are the North American industry leaders in Zero-Emission (ZE) Class 8 truck sales. In 2020, the Volvo Group made a global commitment to having 100% of its product sales being fossil free by 2040, including a nearer term goal of 35% of product sales being zero-emission by 2030. The Hagerstown plant plays a key role in this transition through the manufacturing of all modular power boxes for the Volvo VNR electric and Mack LR electric Class 8 trucks. Mack Trucks also sells an electric refuse truck.

As ZEEVIC continues its mission to develop policies, recommendations, and incentives around ZEVs, it is vitally important that it also have perspective and information about the unique characteristics of ZE heavy-duty trucks and the requirements for the successful adoption of these vehicles in Maryland. As such, representation of a heavy-duty plug-in electric drive vehicle manufacturer on ZEEVIC is extremely important.

Volvo Group urges the Senate Education, Energy & the Environment Committee to give Senate Bill 553 a favorable report.

**For more information call:**

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