



February 13, 2024

Senator Brian Feldman, Chair
Senator Cheryl Kagan, Vice-Chair
Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Miller Senate Building, 2 West
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: ***House Bill 437/Senate Bill 553: Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council – Membership – Favorable with Amendments***

Dear Chairman Feldman and Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

On behalf of the Retail Energy Supply Association (RESA) and its members, we would like to respectfully submit this letter in support of House Bill 437/Senate Bill 553 with amendments.

RESA is a diverse group of retail energy suppliers who share a common vision that competitive retail electricity and natural gas markets deliver a more efficient, customer-oriented outcome than a regulated utility structure. RESA is devoted to working with all stakeholders to promote vibrant and sustainable competitive retail energy markets for residential, commercial and industrial consumers.

As drafted, HB437/ Senate Bill 553 alters the composition of the Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council to include:

- a representative of an electric vehicle driver advocacy organization,
- a light-duty plug-in electric drive vehicle manufacturer,
- a heavy-duty plug-in electric drive vehicle manufacturer,
- A new vehicle dealer association in the state,
- the Secretary of General Services, and
- one additional member of the environmental community.

As written, this bill would also remove certain representatives from the Council, including *“one (1) representative of the retail electric supply community.”*

While RESA has no objections to the proposed additions, we seek to maintain a representative from the retail electric supply community on the Council. Representation from our community will provide supplemental perspectives on various issues, including needed recommendations on the state’s EV charging station infrastructure and private-sector investments for zero-emission vehicles. In addition, our industry's representation will support any proposed recommendations that will promote the utilization of zero-emission vehicles in Maryland.

For these reasons, we respectfully request this Committee adopt the amendments listed below and give HB437/SB553 a FAVORABLE report.

Sincerely,



Tracy McCormick, Executive Director

RESA AMENDMENTS – HB437/ SB553

Amendment #1: Page 4, Line 2 – Strike “~~;~~**AND**”.

Amendment #2: Page 4, Line 4 – Insert “**J**” after the word “and”.

Amendment #3: Page 4, Line 5 – Strike “**J**” after the word “community”; Insert the “**;** **AND**” after the “community”.

Amendment #4: Page 4, Line 6 – Insert “**(XVI)**” before “**A NEW VEHICLE DEALER ASSOCIATION IN THE STATE.**”

Amendment #5: Page 7, Line 21 – Strike “~~;~~**AND**”.

Amendment #6: Page 7, Line 23 – Insert “**J**” after the word “and”.

Amendment #7: Page 7, Line 24 – Strike “**J**” after the word “community”; Insert the “**;** **AND**” after the “community”.

Amendment #8: Page 7, Line 25 – Insert “**(XVI)**” before “**A NEW VEHICLE DEALER ASSOCIATION IN THE STATE.**”