



Committee: Environment and Transportation
Testimony on: HB156 - Transportation - Electric Bicycle Rebate and Voucher Program - Establishment
Organization: Maryland Legislative Coalition Climate Justice Wing
Submitting: Laurie McGilvray, Co-Chair
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: February 8, 2024

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing our testimony today in support of HB156. The Maryland Legislative Coalition (MLC) Climate Justice Wing, a statewide coalition of nearly 30 grassroots and professional organizations, urges you to vote favorably on HB156.

On-road transportation is the single largest source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Maryland, i.e., 36 percent of total GHG emissions.¹ Getting residents out of gas-powered vehicles is essential to cutting transportation emissions. Bicycles can play an important role. The use of electric bikes for daily commutes and everyday activities is increasing, and affordability should not be a barrier to further expansion.

HB156 will establish the Electric Bicycle Rebate and Voucher Program (Program) to provide rebates and vouchers for Maryland residents 18 years and older who purchase electric bicycles, replacement batteries, locks, adaptive equipment for riders with disabilities, and undertake routine maintenance. The bill requires the Governor to include \$100,000 for the Program in the budget, and requires a report to the General Assembly by December 31, 2026 (and each year thereafter) on demographic, geographic, and income data on individuals receiving a rebate or voucher, information on participating retailers and a breakdown of covered items.

HB156 will help Maryland cut its GHG emissions from transportation and offer an affordable way to for people to get around. The MLC Climate Justice Wing strongly supports HB156 and urges a **FAVORABLE** report in Committee.

350MoCo
Adat Shalom Climate Action

¹ Maryland Department of Transportation. [MDOT Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act \(GGRA\) Plan](#). 2022

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church Environmental Justice Ministry
Chesapeake Earth Holders
Climate Parents of Prince George's
Climate Reality Project
ClimateXChange – Rebuild Maryland Coalition
Coming Clean Network, Union of Concerned Scientists
DoTheMostGood Montgomery County
Echotopia
Elders Climate Action
Fix Maryland Rail
Glen Echo Heights Mobilization
Greenbelt Climate Action Network
HoCoClimateAction
IndivisibleHoCoMD
Maryland Legislative Coalition
Mobilize Frederick
Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions
Montgomery Countryside Alliance
Mountain Maryland Movement
Nuclear Information & Resource Service
Progressive Maryland
Safe & Healthy Playing Fields
Takoma Park Mobilization Environment Committee
The Climate Mobilization MoCo Chapter
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland
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