

LEGISLATIVE POSITION: FAVORABLE Motor Vehicles - Certificate of Title Fees - Zero-Emission Plug-In Electric Drive Vehicles House Bill 774 Environment and Transportation Committee Thursday, February 22, 2024

Dear Chairman Korman and Members of the Committee:

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce (Maryland Chamber) is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 6,800 members and federated partners working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic recovery and growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

House Bill 774 alters the fee for the issuance of title for zero-emission plug-in electric vehicles to \$200.

The increased adoption of electric vehicles has resulted in a loss of revenue from the gas tax to the Transportation Trust Tund (TTF), which helps maintain our state's roads and infrastructure. Implementing a fee on electric vehicles helps ensure that electric vehicle owners contribute their fair share to fund road maintenance and infrastructure improvements.

While electric vehicles are generally more fuel-efficient than traditional vehicles, they are not without their costs to society, such as wear and tear on roads and the requirement for the installation of charging infrastructure. Over 30 states have added a surcharge on electric vehicles to compensate for lost revenue. Maryland should join the bulk of the nation and add a fee on electric vehicles to ensure the solvency of Maryland's TTF.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a <u>favorable</u> <u>report</u> on **HB 774**.

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