



# Maryland

## Energy Administration

**TO:** Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

**FROM:** MEA

**SUBJECT:** HB 159 - Common Ownership Communities - Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment (Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Act of 2024)

**DATE:** February 6, 2024

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### **MEA Position: FAVORABLE**

This bill reduces barriers to the adoption of EV infrastructure –and by extension the adoption of EVs– for cooperative housing corporations, and it continues the work that the General Assembly did in passing the Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment for Multifamily Units Act of 2021, which had a similar effect on homeowners associations and condominiums.

According to Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan, the “transportation sector accounted for 35% of Maryland’s GHG emissions in 2020 with most emissions (82%) in this sector coming from on-road vehicles powered by gasoline or diesel”... but “[t]o achieve deeper reductions from the transportation sector, it will be necessary to transition much of the light-duty fleet to [zero-emission vehicles] by 2031 and increase the use of other modes of transportation, including public transportation and micro-mobility options.” Additionally, “[t]o accomplish Maryland’s goal for rapid growth in the number of ZEVs on Maryland’s roads, building out a robust [zero-emission vehicles] infrastructure network is critical.

Historically, it has been difficult to build out that robust EV infrastructure for low- to moderate-income Marylanders, as they are more likely to live within a multifamily development. This bill would assist in the deployment of EV infrastructure by reducing barriers to adoption in developments established as cooperative housing corporations, including upon common elements.

MEA urges the committee to issue a **favorable report**.

Our sincere thanks for your consideration of this testimony. For questions or additional information, please contact Landon Fahrig, Legislative Liaison, directly ([landon.fahrig@maryland.gov](mailto:landon.fahrig@maryland.gov), 410.931.1537).