



HB0159 - Common Ownership Communities - Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment (Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Act of 2024)

Testimony before House Environment and Transportation Committee

February 6, 2024

Position: Favorable

Mr. Chair, Ms. Vice Chair and members of the committee, my name is Michael Loll, and I represent the 700+ members of Indivisible Howard County. We provide written testimony today in strong support of SB 0159, which expands the scope of previous legislation safeguarding the rights of electric vehicle owners living in multifamily homes.

Passage of HB0159 will expand current legislation in 3 ways:

- It will extend to residents of cooperative housing the same right now enjoyed by residents in other types of multifamily housing, e.g. the right to install electric vehicle chargers in residents' own personal parking spaces.
- It enlarges the types of vehicles covered to include electric bicycle chargers as well as electric car/truck chargers. Electric bicycle owners living in combined housing would be able to install charging ports.
- It requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to set up a website and designate a point person to handle questions residents bring up about installing chargers in multifamily dwellings.

Electric vehicles do not emit greenhouse gases or many other pollutants created by internal combustion. Promoting their use helps fight climate change and reduces the automobile pollution so prevalent in Maryland. This bill makes it easier for cooperative housing residents and electric bicycle owners in multifamily units to install their own chargers, which may encourage more electric vehicle ownership. Furthermore HB0159 extends a previously legislated right to more Marylanders. Passing this bill protects our environment and advances the cause of fair treatment for our citizens.

Thank you for your time and attention. We also thank Delegate Korman for his sponsorship of this bill.

We encourage a favorable report.

Michael Loll
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