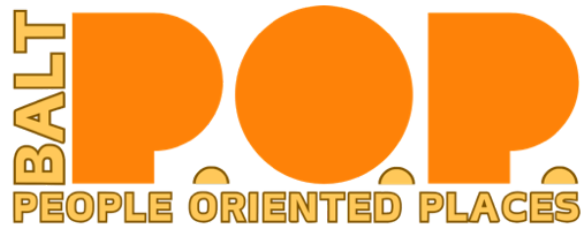


Bill: SB0557

Bill Title: Vehicle-Miles-Traveled Tax and
Associated Mandated Devices - Prohibition
(Transportation Freedom Act of 2025)

Position: **Unfavorable**



Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

As a group which views automobile-centric transportation and land use as begetting a fiscally-unsustainable and people-hostile development pattern, we oppose SB0557.

For a very long time, we have levied a tax on gasoline as a way to pay for our transportation system. This has served as a very simple, usage-based mechanism for users of the system to pay for the wear and tear they place on our roadways.

However, as adoption of electric automobiles increases, gasoline usage no longer serves as a catch-all measure of people's usage. Gasoline consumption has always served as an easy-to-tax proxy for vehicle miles traveled (VMT). As technology advances and becomes more deeply embedded in our daily habits, it becomes increasingly possible and acceptable to simply shift to directly measuring and taxing VMT.

If gasoline consumption has always been an acceptable proxy for VMT, and taxing that consumption has always been an acceptable stand-in for taxing (up to this point difficult-to-track) VMT, we don't see why the option of directly taxing VMT should be off the table.

We hope the committee finds these points helpful and convincing and we urge its members to **vote against SB0557**. Thank you for your efforts and the opportunity for us to testify on this legislation.

[BaltPOP - Baltimoreans for People-Oriented Places](#)