



Maryland

Energy Administration

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

FROM: MEA

SUBJECT: HB 1269 - School Bus Transition - Propane-Powered School Buses - Grant Program, Fund, and Purchase

DATE: March 5, 2025

MEA Position: UNFAVORABLE

House Bill 1269 would authorize a county board of education to enter into a new contract for the purchase of propane-powered school buses, and allow program and grant funding allocated for zero-emission school buses to now include propane-powered school buses.

In 2023, Maryland released its Climate Pollution Reduction Plan, which outlined a comprehensive framework to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) by 60% by 2031. That plan highlighted that Maryland's vehicle fleet accounted for 35% of Maryland's GHG emissions in 2020, and emphasized the importance of transitioning school buses to zero-emission models.

This bill runs contrary to Maryland's clean energy and climate pollution reduction goals, and perpetuates the exposure of children to harmful contaminants.

For the reasons outlined above, MEA urges the committee to issue an **unfavorable report**.

Our sincere thanks for your consideration of this testimony. For questions or additional information, please contact Megan Outten, Policy Manager, directly at megan.outten@maryland.gov, 443-842-1780).