



# Maryland Department of Agriculture

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## Maryland Department of Agriculture

### Legislative Comment

Date: April 2nd, 2026

**BILL NUMBER:** House Bill 969  
**BILL TITLE:** Electric Vehicle Fuel Sold at Retail - Equipment Requirements, Units of Measure, and Fees  
**MDA POSITION:** SUPPORT

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The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) respectfully submits this letter in support of *House Bill 969 - Electric Vehicle Fuel Sold at Retail - Equipment Requirements, Units of Measure, and Fees*.

This legislation establishes a clear and uniform method of sale for electricity used as vehicle fuel, requires proper marking of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE), ensures transparent and equitable retail transactions for consumers. The marking requirements outlined in this bill are consistent with the user requirements contained in the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Handbook 44 under the Electric Vehicle Fueling Systems Code. These requirements ensure that the responsible party for a charging station is clearly identified and accessible. This information is critical for consumers reporting service or billing issues, inspectors addressing violations and taking enforcement action, and emergency responders who may need immediate contact information at a charging location.

The recognized national method of sale for electricity used as vehicle fuel, as outlined in NIST Handbook 130, is “per kilowatt hour.” This bill directly adopts that established method into Maryland law. An increasing number of EVSE operators set the price per kilowatt hour at zero dollars while imposing significantly higher time-based fees. In some cases, kilowatt hour pricing is not displayed at all. These practices undermine transparency and conflict with the intent of weights and measures law. The purpose of establishing a uniform method of sale for commodities is to provide consumers with a clear and reasonable basis for price comparison. While current law does not regulate the price set per kilowatt hour, and does not prohibit giving electricity away at no cost, establishing a minimum price per kilowatt hour ensures that the commodity itself, not parking time, remains the basis of the transaction. For these reasons, MDA supports HB 969 and respectfully requests a favorable report.

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