



Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Will Smith, Chair and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Vince Flook, President, Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland
Will Cain, 1st Vice President, Towing & Recovery Professionals of Maryland

DATE: February 24, 2026

RE: **SB 553 Commission to Advance Lithium-Ion Battery Safety in Maryland -
Reestablishment**

POSITION: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**

The Towing Recovery Professionals of Maryland (TRPM) SUPPORT SB 553 WITH AMENDMENTS. This bill reestablishes the Commission to Advance Lithium-Ion Battery Safety in Maryland (Commission) to continue its research and review in several new areas.

Towing companies are on the front line providing a public service clearing and cleaning roadways when accidents occur. Their jobs can be dangerous and increasingly, so when an electric vehicle is involved. These vehicles do not have conventional transmission systems and must be towed in specific ways to avoid electrical issues, overheating, and damage to the battery pack. The batteries themselves also pose risks and must be handled in a certain manner with protective equipment.

The Commission's scope is being expanded to include the research and review of "Battery risks at the Port of Baltimore, roads, rail, and tunnels throughout Maryland." Considering the potential risks of towing electric vehicles in these areas, TRPM respectfully requests the bill be amended to add "ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TOWING AND RECOVERY PROFESSIONALS OF MARYLAND."

For these reasons, TRPM SUPPORTS SB 553 WITH AMENDMENTS and urges the Committee to add a TRPM representative to the Commission's membership.