

February 5, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman  
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee  
250 Lowe House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

***RE: Letter of Opposition – House Bill 183 – Vehicle Laws – Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program – Repeal***

Dear Chair Korman and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) respectfully opposes House Bill 183 and offers the following information for the Committee’s consideration.

HB 183 would repeal the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP) currently required for certain vehicles in Maryland. In Maryland, vehicle emissions testing is mandated under the federal Clean Air Act (CAA). This requirement is due to areas within the State not meeting the federal standards for ground-level ozone air pollution as established in the CAA. Consequently, the VEIP aims to mitigate motor vehicle emissions by identifying vehicles that emit excessive levels of these pollutants and ensure the subsequent repair of its emissions systems

The VEIP is a core component emission control measure with the State’s EPA-approved State Implementation Plan (SIP), a requirement to ensure CAA compliance. Termination of the VEIP will likely result in federal sanctions due to violations of the CAA. These sanctions for non-compliance with the CAA may include restrictions on future transportation funding due to the State’s failure to maintain CAA compliance. This is in addition to the loss of transportation revenues generated by the VEIP and which flow to the Transportation Trust Fund. These revenues, when coupled with available federal funding, provide additional resources for transportation infrastructure investments and operations and can further mitigate the effects of motor vehicle emissions while improving air quality in the State.

The VEIP is jointly managed by the MVA and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). The MVA is responsible for operational oversight and contract monitoring while MDE ensures technical oversight and program quality. A third-party contractor manages and operates the State’s centralized VEIP stations, 10 self-service kiosks, and 34 Fleet Inspection Station program stations located in 13 counties and Baltimore City. The self-service VEIP kiosks are available to customers 24/7, at a lower cost. Under the new VEIP vendor contract, which took effect October 2025, MVA and the contractor will increase the number of self-service kiosks throughout the State.

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The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the committee consider this information during its deliberation of House Bill 183 and issue the bill an unfavorable report.

Respectfully submitted,

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