



# Montgomery County

## Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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**HB 1225**

**DATE: March 4, 2026**

**SPONSOR: Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo**

**ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation**

**CONTACT PERSON: Garrett Fitzgerald (garrett.fitzgerald@montgomerycountymd.gov)**

**POSITION: Support (Department of Environmental Protection)**

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### **Weights and Measures - Electric Vehicle Charging Equipment - Registration Fees**

House Bill 1225 would prohibit the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) from issuing a registration fee for retail electric vehicle (EV) charging stations that is higher on a per port basis than the fee charged to retail gasoline pumps on a per fuel dispensing meter basis. The bill would also direct that funding required by MDA for the purchase of equipment necessary to inspect retail EV charging stations shall be provided from the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

Montgomery County has received and shares the concerns of public-serving EV charging infrastructure hosts about the new approach to EV charger testing and registration fees announced by MDA in 2025. Many EV chargers located away from primary corridors and destinations are not yet heavily utilized and earn minimal profit for their hosts. Yet these charging stations are valuable as we work in partnership to develop a statewide EV charging network that drivers can rely on when needed. High registration fees could lead some multifamily properties, workplaces, and retail locations to remove existing chargers to avoid losing money, and may slow the pace of new charger deployments. Strategies to increase charger reliability should be thoughtfully designed to avoid reducing availability and equitable access to EV charging.

Limiting registration fees for public-serving EV charging infrastructure and reducing the revenue that MDA will need to recover through those fees is an important step to help preserve Maryland's public EV charging network. There may be additional opportunities to reduce costs through further consideration of the goals and strategies underpinning MDA's approach to EV charging infrastructure inspections in consultation with experts such as the Maryland Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council.

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection respectfully requests that the Environment and Transportation Committee issue a favorable report on House Bill 1225.