



House Bill 1019

School Bus Transition – Propane-Powered School Buses – Grant Program, Fund, and Purchase

Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Environment and Transportation Committee

Date: February 24, 2026

From: County Commissioners of Worcester County

Worcester County supports House Bill 1019.

We believe propane-powered school buses are a viable alternative to electric buses. By working them in to the grant program, the state will be allowing for a more feasible transition toward net zero.

Electric buses cost more than twice as much as propane buses but have less than half the range. An electric bus can travel 120 miles after hours of charging while a propane-powered bus can be driven about 300 miles after a fill-up that takes less than 10 minutes. In a rural area like Worcester County, where bus stops are miles apart, that larger range is critical. Propane powered buses would be feasible throughout the county whereas electric buses would only work within municipalities.

Propane buses are an affordable alternative to electric buses that will move Maryland significantly closer to its net zero goals. We urge you to provide House Bill 1019 with a **favorable** report. Thank you.