



MARYLAND LEAGUE
OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

March 5, 2020

SUPPORT HB1233: State Vehicle Fleet – Conversion to Zero-Emission Electric Vehicles

Maryland League of Conservation Voters

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Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Maryland League of Conservation Voters strongly supports HB1233, State Vehicle Fleet – Conversion to Zero-Emission Electric Vehicles, and we thank Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo for his long-standing leadership on this issue.

The Maryland General Assembly, and the Environment and Transportation Committee, have made important strides towards addressing climate change and putting Maryland on the path to being a leader in climate policy nationwide. Confronting the climate emergency is a relentless challenge that must be attacked with robust action in all sectors of the economy. No sector is more important to confront head-on than transportation, which contributes 38% of Maryland's greenhouse gas inventory.

This year, you have the opportunity to take bold steps to address transportation pollution by supporting public transit and electrification of transit and school buses – these initiatives are priorities of the Maryland League of Conservation Voters. We have testified before you on electrification of school buses, and transit buses, as well as extending the zero-emissions vehicle tax credit. HB1233 is an important component of the solution to transportation pollution by requiring the State of Maryland to commit to transitioning its state vehicles to electric beginning in 2022. Maryland has recognized the importance of electric cars by setting a mandate of 300,000 new electric vehicles on the road by the year 2025. The state must lead by example in this.

Maryland LCV urges a favorable report on HB1223.