

**Hearing on the Proposed Maryland Transportation Electrification and Modernization
(TEAM) Act**

February 25, 2022

Written Testimony

The Partners for a Zero Emission Vehicle Future (PZEVF) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments regarding Maryland's proposed legislation to accelerate the deployment of medium-duty (MD) and heavy-duty (HD) zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) in the State.

PZEVF is a growing coalition of stakeholders from across the transportation sector united by a commitment to minimize transportation emissions and support the adoption of medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles. We support Maryland's interest in accelerating the adoption of zero-emission trucks to address the State's air quality and climate change goals and applaud the proposal to establish a Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero Emission Vehicle Grant Program through the TEAM Act.

Unlike the case of consumers purchasing light duty vehicles, heavy-duty fleets evaluate and purchase commercial vehicles based mainly on the certainty of a return on investment and total cost of ownership. Today's vehicle and battery prices, together with the uncertainty of electricity charging costs, charging structure buildout, and vehicle residual values makes users extremely hesitant to move to new technologies

Unfortunately, ZEV trucks have substantially higher costs over the course of their lifespan than conventionally fueled trucks. This includes purchase prices that are 2-to-3 times higher than their diesel equivalents, as well as relative operational inefficiencies (i.e., it takes more ZEV trucks to perform the work of conventionally fueled trucks), the aforementioned lower residual values, and the additional required investments in new maintenance facilities, training, and parts inventories to facilitate the transition.

In the face of higher upfront and lifecycle costs posed by the transition to ZEVs, many operators and fleets may choose to keep older, higher-emitting trucks on the road for longer. As such, it is critical that Maryland provide incentives to offset the higher costs faced by MD and HD fleets and operators.

This is why PZEVF writes to express our support for and applaud the proposed establishment of Vehicle Grant Program as part of the TEAM Act. Government programs such as this will be vital to creating the environment in which a successful and rapid transition to a zero-emission vehicle future is possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

Partners for a Zero Emission Vehicle Future

HB 0894
Alex Adams (info@pzevf.org)
Partners for a Zero Emission Vehicle Future
Favorable

<i>American Truck Dealers</i>	<i>New Jersey Coalition of Automotive Retailers</i>
<i>American Trucking Associations</i>	<i>PACCAR</i>
<i>Cleanfleets.net</i>	<i>Trucking and Engine Manufacturers Association</i>
<i>Daimler Trucks North America</i>	<i>Truck Renting and Leasing Association</i>
<i>Navistar</i>	<i>Volvo Group North America</i>