



**Delaware-Maryland Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

Testimony Prepared for the  
**Environment and Transportation Committee**  
on  
**House Bill 829**  
February 25, 2022  
Position: **Favorable**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity to support a cleaner energy future via State purchasing. I am Lee Hudson, assistant to the bishop for public policy in the Delaware-Maryland Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We are a faith community with three synods in every part of our State.

My community advocates for reductions of current and future greenhouse gas emissions through public policies that influence energy demand and consumption.

Lower emissions are feasible now with available technology. What is needed is expansion of demand for the product to achieve scale. Commercial demand for zero emission vehicles is presently strong, suggesting the public is making a supportive decision. Assisting market evolution toward zero emissions will hasten the investment needed for the desired—and we add, necessary—result. The State of Maryland, as one actor, can do its part by recruiting its purchasing power to increase ZEVs in its market.

**House Bill 829** would adopt relevant standards in California's ACT policy to increase ZEVs in the State's vehicle fleets. We support this policy instrument and its goal and ask your favorable report.

Lee Hudson