



February 13, 2023

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Senator, Maryland General Assembly
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support for SB 548, Maryland Energy Administration – Energy Programs – Modifications (Clean Transportation and Energy Act)

Dear Senator Feldman:

On behalf of the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), I am writing to offer our support for SB 548 that extends the duration of the Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Program.

Climate change is a regional priority for COG, the association of local governments in metropolitan Washington. Additionally, the COG Board of Directors has specifically identified EV deployment as a regional priority and recognizes the need for increased collaboration to support the deployment of EVs and EV charging equipment. Several barriers are currently preventing the accelerated adoption of EVs, including a shortfall in the necessary charging stations. The State of Maryland's Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Rebate Program incentivizes greater deployment of EV charging infrastructure in metropolitan Washington. Furthermore, SB 548 aligns with COG's priority on equity by prioritizing offering benefits to low-income and environmental justice communities.

As such, CEEPC, on behalf of COG, supports the extension of this program, as well as the increase in the total amount of rebates. Please contact Jeffrey King, COG Director of Climate, Energy, and Air Programs, at (202) 962-3238 or jking@mwcog.org if you have any questions. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Takis Karantonis' with a horizontal line underneath.

Takis Karantonis
Chair, Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee

cc: Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan
Honorable Malcolm Augustine
Honorable Benjamin Brooks
Honorable Mary Beth Carozza
Honorable Jason C. Gallion

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
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Honorable Katie Fry Hester
Honorable Karen Lewis Young
Honorable Bryan W. Simonaire
Honorable Mary Washington
Honorable Ron Watson
Honorable Pamela Beidle
Honorable Joanne Benson
Honorable Jill Carter
Honorable Sarah Elfreth
Honorable Arthur Ellis
Honorable Dawn Gile
Honorable Shelly Hettleman
Honorable Michael Jackson
Honorable Nancy King
Honorable Clarence Lam
Honorable Charles Muse
Honorable Jeff Waldstreicher