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February 24, 2023

To: The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Kira Wilpone-Welborn, Assistant Attorney General
Consumer Protection Division

Re: House Bill 830 – Residential Construction or Significant Renovation - Electric Vehicle Charging (SUPPORT)

The Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General (the “Division”) supports House Bill 830 sponsored by Delegates Terrasa, Lehman, Charkoudian, Fraser-Hidalgo, and Wu. Currently, Md. Code Ann., Public Safety § 12-205 requires that buyers of newly constructed single-family detached homes or townhomes be given the option to include, in the garage, carport, or driveway, an electric vehicle charging station or a dedicated electric line to support at least Level 2 charging. House Bill 830 would amend Public Safety § 12-205 to require all newly constructed single-family detached homes and townhomes to include electric vehicle charging stations capable of providing at least Level 2 charging and would expand Public Safety § 12-205 by including multifamily residential buildings with off-street communal parking in this requirement. House Bill 830 also expands the requirements of providing electric vehicle charging stations capable of providing at least Level 2 charging to existing housing units, including multifamily residential buildings, undergoing substantial renovation.

House Bill 830 enables consumers who reside in newly constructed multifamily residential buildings with off-street communal parking, as well as housing units with parking for each housing unit, to have access to electric vehicle charging stations. Electric vehicles reduce individuals’ carbon footprint and help to protect the environment. The limited availability of electric vehicle charging stations can make owning an electric vehicle impractical for individuals residing in housing with only off-street communal parking available. Providing consumers access to an electric vehicle charging station at or near their homes, and removing impediments that may make ownership of these vehicles difficult for consumers residing in multifamily residential buildings with only access to communal parking, furthers Maryland’s clean energy goals by increasing the likelihood that individuals will purchase an electric vehicle if they wish to do so.

The Division requests that the Environment and Transportation Committee give House Bill 830 a favorable report.

Cc: The Honorable Jen Terrasa
The Honorable Mary A. Lehman
The Honorable Lorig Charkoudian
The Honorable David Fraser-Hidalgo
The Honorable Chao Wu
Members, Environment and Transportation Committee