

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

House Bill 830 – Residential Construction or Significant Renovation - Electrical Vehicle Charging Bill.

POSITION: Favorable

BY: Beth Hufnagel

HEARING DATE: Tuesday February 28, 2023

I live in an older townhouse community in Elkridge (Howard County) without a garage. I would very much like to contribute to reducing the release of gasoline byproducts into the air by buying an electric vehicle (EV), especially while federal tax credits are still available. This bill would help increase EV-friendly housing anywhere in the state that would permit me to purchase an EV in the future. This would also contribute to my household staying in the state when my partner retires later this year.

I have investigated buying an EV while still living in my community, but there are a number of barriers to charging it. My assigned parking space is about 120 feet away from the closest exterior electrical plug on my house. My Home Owners' Association will not permit wiring into their closer street light. (Someone else had asked that question, so I know I'm not the only one frustrated by this.) The closest commercial charging spot is at the Giant, 0.7 miles away, but there are only two spots.

This is so important to me that I created an MGA account to submit this testimony. I consider the availability of EV-friendly housing to be a basic utility.

I strongly urge a favorable report.