



**The Maryland Department of the Environment**  
**Secretary Serena McIlwain**

***Senate Bill 695***

***Building Code - Construction and Significant Renovation of Housing Units - Electric  
Vehicle Parking Spaces***

**Position:** Support  
**Committee:** Education, Energy, and the Environment  
**Date:** March 4, 2024  
**From:** Hadley Anthony

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The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) **SUPPORTS** SB 695.

**Bill Summary**

Senate Bill 695 sets requirements for new or significantly renovated residential housing units to include at least one Level 2 charger installed parking space available for use by all residents and a specific number of electric vehicle (EV)-ready parking spaces dedicated to specific residential units or for common use. The bill changes the definition of “housing” unit to include multifamily residential buildings. The bill defines “significant renovation” as a renovation to a housing unit that includes electrical panel upgrades that increase the capacity of the panel or parking upgrades that involve repaving or trenching in or around parking spaces. The bill also authorizes a county or municipality to require the construction of housing units to include a greater number of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE)-installed parking spaces or EV-ready parking spaces than the bill requires under.

**Position Rationale**

Senate Bill 695 would remove barriers to growing Maryland’s technology infrastructure and ensure that all residents, including those who reside in multifamily residential buildings, can affordably and easily charge their EV at home. At-home EV charging is crucial for widespread adoption of EVs. It's widely known that the majority of personal vehicle charging occurs at night, at home. The bill would help to guarantee that more Marylanders, including residents in multifamily settings, have accessible charging infrastructure either within their buildings, or in nearby communities. This commitment enhances overall accessibility and convenience, contributing to the broader goal of promoting electric vehicle ownership throughout Maryland.

Accordingly, MDE asks for a **FAVORABLE** report for SB 695.