



Testimony to the House Environment and Transportation Committee
HB 1240 Fossil Fuel-Powered Appliances and Vehicles - Installation, Use, and Fees
Position: Unfavorable

February 19, 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman, Chair
Room 251, House Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Chair Korman and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee:

I have been an Electric Vehicle (EV) owner since 2011 having experience with five EV makes/models. My household has also been on-site renewable energy generated electricity net positive for over a decade that also provides 100% of the electric 'fuel' for the EVs' regional miles.

My understanding is that HB 1240 prohibits the prohibition of fossil fuel-powered gas appliances, and prohibits additional title or registration fees on internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles "that is based on the vehicle's use of gasoline". I also understand that the Transportation Revenue and Infrastructure Needs (TRAIN) commission was established to look into issues such as this and other questions but their recommendation report will not be delivered until the end of 2024. Meanwhile the multi-billion dollar shortfall in the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) looms.

I am strongly opposed to this bill because it does nothing to ensure a cleaner, safer, healthier environment nor address the existential threat that is the Climate Crisis. In fact, it does just the opposite. More than 100 years ago, this bill would be the equivalent of coming to the rescue of candlelight, coal fired furnaces, wood fired stoves and horse drawn carriages over the very fossil fuel-powered technology this bill intends to 'protect'. Gas explosions that level homes are becoming routine news events yet we know there is a better way forward.

I also strongly opposed to this bill because it proactively prevents work best left to the TRAIN commission. HB 1240 does nothing to address the TTF issue in the short term nor allows time for the TRAIN commission complete their analysis and make recommendations based on real data. In fact, it sounds like an end run around any conclusions the TRAIN commission may present.

Let's not look backward and legislate, as does this bill, in favor of 19th and 20th century technologies over 21st century tech that has clearly better outcomes for future generations.

Respectfully,

Joyce K. Breiner, CC-P®

