

January 21, 2019

The Honorable Brad Roae
151 East Wing - PO Box 202006
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Chairman Roae:

We are writing today to express our strong support for SB 596, the Pennsylvania Clean Transportation Infrastructure Act. We are pleased to be part of a broad and diverse coalition of organizations that believe that this legislation provides a thoughtful and well-balanced framework to significantly advance electric vehicles in Pennsylvania. It is designed to reflect the priorities and diversity of Pennsylvania, rejecting state mandates and focusing on regionally-designed approaches.

Transportation electrification provides a unique opportunity to support economic development in the Commonwealth by displacing imported oil with electricity generated from Pennsylvania-based energy resources including shale gas and renewables. As a leading electricity-generating state with rich energy reserves and the home to a number of companies and universities engaged in the electrification industry, Pennsylvania is uniquely positioned to benefit from transportation electrification. All electricity consumers in the state, including both electric vehicle (EV) drivers and non-EV drivers, also stand to benefit as electric load is added to the grid, particularly during non-peak times through the use of time-of-use rates that utilities are well-positioned to offer.

Today, there are 58 electric (EV) models for sale, with dozens of new models arriving in the next few years, including trucks, SUVs, and all-wheel drive models. In addition to passenger vehicles, buses, fleet vehicles and heavy-duty trucks offer cost-effective opportunities for electrification that reduce operating costs while providing cleaner air in our communities. However, industry research and independent studies clearly demonstrate that concerns about the availability of charging infrastructure remain a major barrier to adoption for customers considering an EV purchase and municipalities and businesses looking to upgrade their fleets of medium and heavy-duty vehicles. Facilitating the development of central charging facilities at vehicle depots and strategically-located infrastructure along primary travel corridors and in communities where home charging options are limited is essential to overcoming this challenge.

In summary, passing the Pennsylvania Clean Transportation Infrastructure Act will:

- Increase the use of Pennsylvania-based electric generation and other clean fuels to meet with state's transportation needs;
- Promote economic growth and job creation by encouraging private investment in cars, buses and equipment that Pennsylvania businesses are helping to develop;
- Protect customers in Pennsylvania's rural areas and smaller cities from subsidizing the development of infrastructure in the state's metropolitan areas;
- Assist regions across the state in meeting Clean Air Act air quality targets;
- Support customer vehicle choice by providing strategically located access to charging to enable Pennsylvanians to purchase EVs without "range anxiety";

All Parties Support Letter -- Pennsylvania Clean Transportation Infrastructure Act

- Address the electrification of public transit and medium and heavy-duty commercial fleets;
- Encourage efficient use of the electric grid by incentivizing charging during off-peak hours;
- Require extensive transportation sector coordination and regulatory review of any proposed utility EV infrastructure investments; and
- Position Pennsylvania for leadership as changes that are already underway across the transportation industry continue to unfold.

In light of the wide-ranging benefits for Pennsylvania, we commend you for introducing the Pennsylvania Clean Transportation Infrastructure Act and are pleased to express our strong support for the bill.

Sincerely,

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All Parties Support Letter -- Pennsylvania Clean Transportation Infrastructure Act

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All Parties Support Letter -- Pennsylvania Clean Transportation Infrastructure Act

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cc: Pennsylvania House