



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 5485

AAC TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES

March 13, 2024

To: Co-Chairs Sen. Cohen and Rep. Lemar, and Distinguished Members of the Transportation Committee

From: Lori Brown, Executive Director, CT League of Conservation Voters

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **HB 5485** that will establish an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Coordinating Council and a Zero-Emission Vehicle Roadmap.

Transportation in Connecticut is responsible for nearly 40% of our greenhouse gas emissions and 37% of NO_x emission (a key component of ground-level ozone). Motor vehicle exhaust negatively affects the health of all Connecticut residents, whether or not they drive regularly or even own a car: **Connecticut has the highest rate of air pollution-linked death in New England.**

Pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act, Connecticut has the opportunity to address these emissions by adopting up-to-date vehicle standards that will further reduce pollution from our vehicles. **HB 5485 will allow decision makers to gain a better understanding of Connecticut's readiness to transition to EVs and plan efficiently for that imminent change.**

Massachusetts has already implemented a similar Coordinating Council to promote the adoption of electrified transportation. Connecticut must also take proactive measures to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and our dependence on oil and gas by reducing vehicle emissions.

The implementation of both an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Coordinating Council and a Zero-Emission Vehicle Roadmap are important. This will ensure understanding and coordination between decision makers and all stakeholders about the data and projections for zero-emission vehicles and infrastructure deployment.

CTLCV urges the committee to **SUPPORT HB 5485** as it will prepare Connecticut for the shift to electric vehicles that is needed to achieve our emission reduction targets. Thank you for considering our comments.

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