Virginia House of Delegates
Counties Cities and Towns - Subcommittee #2

Committee Members,

Since 2007, ChargePoint has been committed to making it easy for businesses and drivers to go electric, with a world-leading electric vehicle (EV) charging network and a complete set of charging solutions available today. They include options for every charging scenario from home and multifamily to the workplace, parking, hospitality, retail, and fleets. There are more than 211,000 ports on the ChargePoint network across North America and Europe and an additional 350,000 ports accessible via roaming agreements.

ChargePoint is in **support of SB1312** to reduce Virginia's transportation sector emissions while also providing opportunities for economic growth, employment, and recruitment within the Commonwealth for the following reasons.

SB 1312 Electric vehicle charging stations; requirement for certain developments.
Most charging occurs at home, and access to home charging is a key factor in determining whether households will adopt an EV as their next vehicle. SB1312 seeks to provide clarity to localities to develop with input, ordinances for commercial, retail, and multi-family dwellings to expand breaker panels, lay conduit, and wire through a raceway to parking spots based on a percentage of parking. This preparation for electric vehicles enables a site to reduce costs, complexity, and disruptive construction by incorporating EV-ready infrastructure at time of construction rather than retrofits.

Cost
Numerous studies have been conducted regarding the cost difference between new construction vs. retrofit regarding EV infrastructure. In 2019, ChargePoint and Tesla engaged with the California Electric Transportation Coalition to publish the Plug-In Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Cost Analysis Report, which found that for 10% of spaces at a medium sized office/school parking lot the costs for new construction of EV-capable spaces were $901 vs $4,155 for retrofit construction. In addition to this, the City of Orlando highlighted a local EV-Ready building cost example prior to the passage of the City's EV-Ready Ordinance in 2021; finding 20% EV-capable and 2% EV-installed contributed to .0009% of total new construction project costs for a 116 unit Affordable Multi-family housing dwelling.

Equity
As we know the mass-majority of EV charging happens at home, this is primarily done by owners of single-family homes with a garaged vehicle location. EV Ready enables electrification where it is most needed for those who may not have direct access to charging at home. Multi-family will benefit from electrification and allow for all to participate in the electric mobility economy.

Workforce
While this may not be a key topic, it is an important one. Enabling EV Ready building requirements will require the hiring and expansion of local workforces who are knowledgeable in manufacturing, construction, and electrical engineering. These trades are important to domestic prowess and national security to grow domestic manufacturing, production, and deployment.

ChargePoint urges the Committee's support of SB1312 to address ways to lower costs, increase the availability of EV infrastructure, and provide workforce opportunities to Virginians.

Thank you,

Ben Kessler
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ChargePoint