



Transitioning Maine's Fleets to Electric Vehicles

Support: LD 1579 An Act to Transition State and Local Motor Vehicle Fleets to Zero- emission Vehicles

Sponsored by: Sen. Eloise Vitelli of Sagadahoc

Co-sponsored by: Sen. Joseph Baldacci of Penobscot, Rep. Michael Brennan of Portland, Rep. Michelle Dunphy of Old Town, Rep. Nicole Grohoski of Ellsworth, Sen. Mark Lawrence of York, and Rep. David McCrea of Fort Fairfield

For more information, please contact
Anya Fetcher, (207) 430-0118
or afetcher@nrcm.org



Natural Resources
Council of Maine

3 Wade Street
Augusta, ME 04330
(207) 622-3101
nrcm.org

Transportation accounts for more than half of Maine's greenhouse gas pollution. Of that pollution, 59% comes from light-duty cars and trucks. In order to respond effectively to climate change while meeting our state's transportation needs, it is essential that we transition our light-duty cars and trucks to zero-emission vehicles and achieve our Climate Action Plan goal of putting 219,000 light-duty electric vehicles (EVs) on the road by 2030.

LD 1579 would keep Maine on track to meet our Climate Action Plan transportation goals and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our most polluting sector.

Accelerating the Transition to Electric Vehicles

- The transition to EVs is underway, but in order to meet ambitious goals in a short timeframe, action must be taken on the state and local levels.
- LD 1579 establishes goals and timetables for the state, counties, and municipalities to increase the percentage of zero-emission and plug-in hybrid light-duty fleet vehicles they purchase to 50% by 2025, and 100% by 2030, and for school districts to increase the percentage of zero-emission school buses they purchase to 75% by 2035.

Cost and Health Benefits for Towns & Counties

- The cost of owning and operating EVs is lower than the cost of owning and operating gas-powered vehicles due to lower fuel and maintenance costs, leading to savings for local government.
- Maine has high levels of asthma and respiratory illness due to poor air quality, especially among children. Electrifying fleet vehicles and school buses will reduce air pollution around community centers like public schools and town centers.

(over)

Acting with Ambition on Climate Change

- Transportation is the top priority identified in Maine's Climate Action Plan. Transitioning to electric vehicles is one of the most important ways our state can reduce climate pollution.
- Maine people are already seeing the impacts of climate change. Extreme weather, warming winters, and rising sea levels threaten Maine's economy and communities. We must act now.
- Contact your state legislators and ask them to act on climate by supporting LD 1579.



Find your state legislators here:

<https://nrcm.salsalabs.org/mainelegislatorlookup/index.html>



Natural Resources Council of Maine
3 Wade Street • Augusta, Maine • 04330
(800) 287-2345 • www.nrcm.org