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I oppose this bill as a spurious and misguided penalization on electric vehicles in our state. According to data from the National Transportation Safety Board, EVs are actually less likely to cause or be involved in fires than gasoline-powered or hybrid vehicles. (25 fires for every 100,000 sold, versus approximately 1,530 gasoline-powered vehicles and 3,475 hybrid vehicles involve in fires, for every 100,000 sold). The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) already offers safety trainings and emergency response materials from EV manufacturers. If firefighters are in need of additional training on EV fires—which do, we know, differ from gas fires—then why not create a common fund and introduce a fee for gas and hybrid cars too, since—as we also know—they catch fire at a much higher rate?

Sources:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/environment-energy-coordination/climate-matters/EV-less-fire-risk#:~:text=Data%20from%20the%20National%20Transportation,fires%20for%20every%20100%2C000%20sold.>

<https://www.kbb.com/car-news/report-evs-less-likely-to-catch-fire-than-gas-powered-cars/>