



**Testimony of Maria Fuentes, Maine Better Transportation Association
Joint Standing Committee on Transportation**

In Support

LD 622 – An Act to Implement a Surcharge on Electric Vehicle Registration

April 30, 2025

Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation. My name is Maria Fuentes, a resident of Hallowell, and am Executive Director of the Maine Better Transportation Association (MBTA) in support of *LD 622 – An Act to Implement a Surcharge on Electric Vehicle Registration*.

MBTA represents over 700 members who plan, design, build, maintain, or use our transportation system including transportation contractors, engineers and suppliers, bus and rail companies, airports, marine and port interests, municipalities and others committed to investing in our multimodal transportation infrastructure to boost the state's economy and quality of life.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), 78% of states – or 39 - require a registration fee for Electric Vehicles (EVs). Of those, 32 states also charge a registration fee for either a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, or non-plug-in hybrid electrical vehicles with combustible engines. EV registration fees range from a low of \$50 in Colorado to a high of \$290 in New Jersey, beginning in 2028. Fees for hybrid vehicles range from \$50 to \$150.

In most states, the EV and hybrid vehicle fee revenues go to a state transportation fund to increase revenues, though a few states direct a portion of the revenues to local governments to support local transportation and infrastructure; certain states split the money generated by the fees with some going to state highway maintenance and improvements, and a smaller portion going to municipalities for construction and maintenance, or to pay for bond debt.

MBTA supports the intent of this bill, which is to have drivers of electric vehicles help pay for the maintenance of the roads they drive on. However, we would prefer that any such fees be part of a broader-based conversation of transportation revenues. We understand that the Committee will be looking at upcoming bills that would look at funding Maine's transportation system more broadly.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts on LD 622.