Promote the Future of Transportation: Support the Clean Corridors Act

Electric transportation is on the verge of transforming mobility. With more than 1 million electric vehicles on the road today and exponential expansion of products in the next decade, the future of transportation is increasingly electric. Plug-in electric and fuel cell electric vehicles – which are zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) – reduce emissions and drivers’ fuel costs. ZEVs are also critical to our competitiveness in the global race for sustainable transportation technologies.

These innovative technologies are shaping the future of mobility, and the U.S. is poised to lead a global transition to electric and shared transportation. Nevertheless, U.S. government analysis suggests that additional ZEV infrastructure investments will be required to satisfy the future of transportation. The Clean Corridors Act responds to this challenge by authorizing funding for ZEV infrastructure projects – including electric vehicle charging stations and hydrogen refueling stations – so states and local communities can leverage private investment to rapidly deploy innovative transportation solutions along the interstate system.

Demand for ZEV Technology Requires Enhanced Investments

ZEV sales continue to increase year-over-year; however, these new mobility options will need 21st century infrastructure to continue to spur consumer adoption and address consumers’ “range anxiety”. Additionally, while the ZEV charging and refueling industry is rapidly growing and is based around private investment, U.S. government analysis suggests that current and projected deployments represent only a fraction of the estimated demand. According to a 2017 U.S. Department of Energy report, the U.S. will require 600,000 Level 2 plugs and 25,000 DC fast charger plugs by 2030 to fuel the electric market alone. Additionally, a 2017 study commissioned by the U.S. Department of Energy found that a network of 1,500 to 3,300 hydrogen stations would be needed to serve a market of millions of fuel cell vehicles by 2035.

The Clean Corridors Act Responds to this Challenge

We encourage Congress to respond to the these market challenges identified by the U.S Department of Energy and enact legislation incentivizing greater investment in ZEV infrastructure deployment along our nation’s interstate system. The Clean Corridors Act (S. 674), sponsored by Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Ranking Member Tom Carper, responds to that need. The bill would establish a grant program to support state and local governments’ efforts with infrastructure providers to invest in electric vehicle charging and hydrogen fueling infrastructure along designated alternative fuel corridors, accessible to all drivers. Federal investment will leverage private dollars, spurring ZEV infrastructure installation and vehicles sales. It will also allow local communities to keep pace with current consumer demand.

The legislation not only would accelerate the development of a 21st Century American transportation sector, it will also: (1) continue U.S. leadership as a technology innovator; (2) stimulate adoption of zero emission vehicles; (3) create transportation and infrastructure jobs and foster new private investment and innovative financing in communities nationwide; and, (4) improve local and national air quality.

The Clean Corridors Coalition respectfully requests your support for the Clean Corridors Act to meet the needs of the 21st century transportation sector.