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Ohio House Transportation and Public Safety Committee
Written Interested Party Testimony on HB 47
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Clean Fuels Ohio
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Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy, and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 47. My name is Brendan Kelley, and I am the Drive Electric Ohio Director at Clean Fuels Ohio, a nonprofit organization based in Columbus that serves as Ohio's clean transportation advocate. Our mission is to improve air quality and health, reduce environmental pollution, strengthen Ohio's economy, and enhance our nation's energy security.

The electric vehicle industry has changed rapidly over that last few years. Automakers have committed nearly \$500 billion worth of investment toward electric vehicles (EVs), including Ford's \$29 billion in EVs and autonomous vehicles. Ford has stated that the majority of its vehicles will be electric in the near future.¹ General Motors has announced plans to end the sale of their gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles by 2035.² It is clear that the auto manufacturing sector is electrifying, and decisions are being made right now about where to site new production capacity and the accompanying jobs. With more than 108,000 jobs in Ohio in auto manufacturing, it is vital that we position our state to ride this oncoming wave, instead of being swamped by it. The question is no longer, "Will this transition occur?" but rather, "Will Ohio benefit from it?"

EV sales in Ohio are growing at a rate of nearly 40% per year,³ which would have the number of plug-in EVs on the road in Ohio more than doubling by 2030 to over 47,000. According to the DOE's Alternative Fuels Data Center, the infrastructure needed to support this number of vehicles is at least 2,000 Level 2 chargers available at public locations and workplaces⁴. Currently, Ohio has just over 1,000 public Level 2 chargers.⁵ A strong charging network also has the effect of signaling to the auto industry that Ohio is serious about competing for EV R&D and manufacturing jobs. This transition to EVs and the needed charging infrastructure represent an opportunity for economic development for all communities in Ohio, and the state should take advantage of it now.

¹ Ford Media, "Ford Raises Planned Investment in EV, AV Leadership to \$29 Billion,"

<https://media.ford.com/content/dam/fordmedia/North%20America/US/2021/02/03/fin-4q20-ford.pdf>

² Reuters, "GM Aims to End Sale of Gasoline, Diesel-Powered Cars," <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-gm-emissions/gm-aims-to-end-sale-of-gasoline-diesel-powered-cars-suvs-light-trucks-by-2035-idUSKBN29X2AY>

³ Chargepoint, "Easton Increases Shopper Dwell Time with Cutting-Edge Fast Charging Technology," <https://www.chargepoint.com/solutions/customer-stories/easton/>

⁴ Alternative Fuels Data Center, "Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Projection Tool (EVI-Pro) LITE," <https://afdc.energy.gov/evi-pro-lite>

⁵ Alternative Fuels Data Center, "Alternative Fuel Station Locator," <https://afdc.energy.gov/stations#/find/nearest>



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Chargepoint, one of the most prominent network of EV chargers in the country, performed a study at Easton Town Center in Columbus after the installation of five DC Fast Chargers and two Level 2 chargers outside Easton businesses. Since installing the chargers, Easton has seen promising results. About 40% of drivers who charge their vehicles there spend an above-average amount of time at Easton, and usage has been growing regularly since the stations were installed.⁶ This is a pattern that has been seen across the country as EV chargers encourage customers to visit and spend time at local businesses. Chargers at public locations like parks and libraries will further encourage people to make use of local destinations.

The US market for EV charging infrastructure was valued at over \$2 billion in 2020, and is expected to grow at an average rate of 40% a year between 2021 and 2028.⁷ Promoting EV charging installation in Ohio ensures that the state keeps pace with this national trend, while also supporting local businesses, equipment installers, and infrastructure supply chains.

We are thankful for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 47 and appreciate this committees' leadership on this issue in the House and Senator Rulli's leadership in the Senate. Please feel free to reach out with any questions. I can be contacted at Brendan@cleanfuelsohio.org.

⁶ Chargepoint, "Easton Increases Shopper Dwell Time with Cutting-Edge Fast Charging Technology," <https://www.chargepoint.com/solutions/customer-stories/easton/>

⁷ Grandview Research, "U.S. Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Market Size, Share & Trends Analysis Report," <https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/us-electric-vehicle-charging-infrastructure-evci-market>