



RURAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE

Infrastructure Program and Fund

REASONS TO SUPPORT HB 1791
(Delegate Sullivan), SB XXX (Senator Aird)

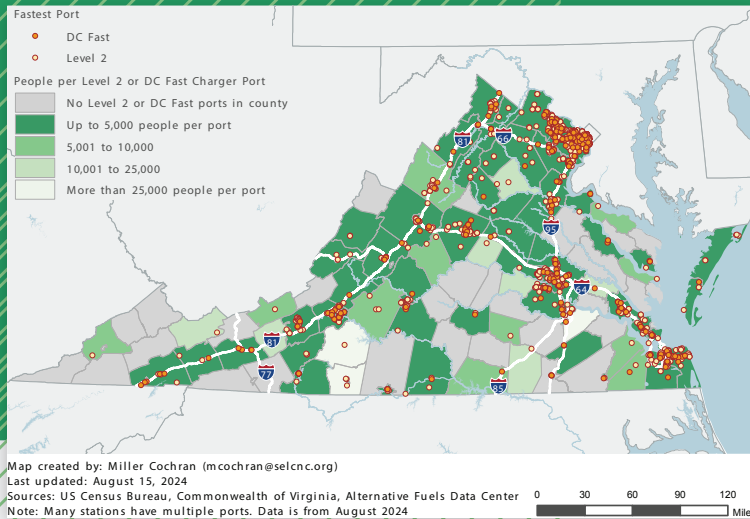
- **Many major auto manufacturers** – like Ford, Volkswagen, General Motors, Volvo and Honda – **are transitioning to EVs**, necessitating a buildout of EV charging stations statewide.
- **EV sales continue to increase**, including a nationwide increase of 11.3% year-over-year between Q2 2023 and Q2 2024, but Virginia's statewide public charging infrastructure is not yet sufficient to meet current or future needs.
- **Developers will be more eager to invest** in charging infrastructure in low-income and rural areas if there are dedicated funds to assist with installation. Without a strong statewide public charging network, EV drivers will not be able to travel to many areas of Virginia, especially rural areas.
- EV charging stations near tourist destinations in low-income and rural localities **will ensure that people continue to visit these regions** as EVs become more prevalent. Tourism is often an essential contributor to local revenues and essential services, to support local businesses and jobs.
- The \$106 million dedicated federal funding Virginia is receiving for EV chargers is designated for major travel corridors. **Virginia does not currently have funds set aside for EV charging stations in rural areas** that are not along highways or in underserved localities. Without dedicated support for charging in these areas, many Virginians will continue to be left behind.
- With many EVs now achieving price parity with traditional gas-combustion vehicles, this bill will **allow rural residents to reap the cost savings** of going electric, which is significantly cheaper per mile than gas.
- While most people charge at home most of the time, consumers tend to purchase vehicles with their longest road trips in mind, and **renters may face barriers to at-home charging**. Publicly accessible EV charging is critical to widespread adoption.



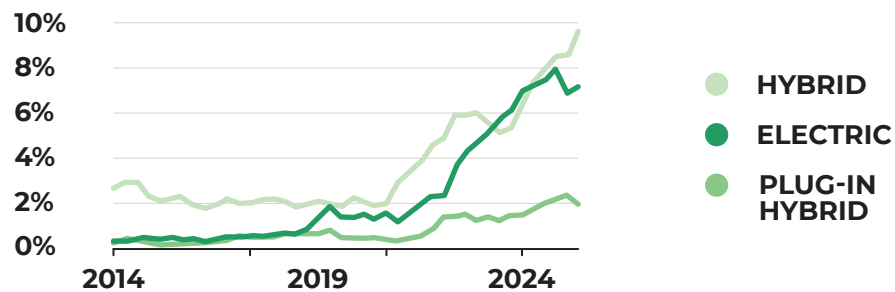
SUMMARY

This bill creates the Rural Charging Infrastructure Program and Fund, providing developers with grants covering up to 70% of the costs associated with the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in rural and low-income localities, as well as at state parks and near federal lands. The Program would help to fill critical gaps in the Commonwealth's EV charging network. The Program would prioritize installation at locations with existing public amenities such as convenience stores, visitor centers, food retailers, and small businesses. Because it is intended to complement, not supplant, federal funding for EV charging, a locality would not be eligible for Program funding if it has received a federal grant to build out its EV charging infrastructure.

RURAL AND LOW-INCOME LOCALITIES LACK CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE



EV SALE GROWTH: BREAKOUT OF EV AND HYBRID SALES



COUNTIES AND CITIES ELIGIBLE FOR INVESTMENT FROM RURAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM AND FUND

COUNTIES:	Caroline	Greensville	Page	Wise	Franklin	Norfolk
Accomack	Carroll	Halifax	Patrick	Wythe	Fredericksburg	Norton
Alleghany	Charles City	Henry	Pittsylvania		Galax	Petersburg
Amelia	Charlotte	Lancaster	Prince Edward		Hampton	Portsmouth
Amherst	Craig	Lee	Russell		Harrisonburg	Radford
Appomattox	Cumberland	Lunenburg	Scott	CITIES:	Hopewell	Richmond
Brunswick	Dickenson	Mecklenburg	Smyth	Bristol	Lexington	Roanoke
Buchanan	Dinwiddie	Northampton	Sussex	Covington	Lynchburg	Waynesboro
Buckingham	Essex	Northumberland	Tazewell	Danville	Martinsville	Williamsburg
Campbell	Giles	Nottoway	Westmoreland	Emporia	Newport News	

LEARN MORE:

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