



EV Freedom Act: Creating Good Union Jobs and Bringing America Closer to a Green Future

Supportive Organizations: Blue Green Alliance; League of Conservation Voters; Union of Concerned Scientists; Sierra Club; Earthjustice; Ecology Center; Environmental Defense Fund (EDF); Environmental Law & Policy Center (ELPC); Food and Water Watch; U.S. Friends of the Earth; Climate Hawks Vote; Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action; Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA); United Steelworkers (USW); Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE); Labor Network for Sustainability; CMS Energy; and DTE Energy.

The **Electric Vehicle (EV) Freedom Act**, a bill to establish a national network of high speed EV charging stations along our National Highway System.

To fight climate change and protect life on Earth as we know it, we must transform our transportation sector and end our reliance on fossil fuels. EVs will play a critical role in that transformation. However, their universal adoption will depend on our rapid expansion of EV charging infrastructure. Today, EV drivers fear being stranded without the ability to charge their cars. We must vastly expand and upgrade our infrastructure to address this if we hope to speed the adoption of cleaner, electric vehicles.

The EV Freedom Act is inspired by President Dwight D. Eisenhower's once radical idea of a system of highways that brought America together, affording every American the freedom to drive from any point in our nation to any other. When EV drivers have this freedom, mass adoption of EV's can truly begin.

This bill would create a national network of publicly available Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment. Specifically, the EV Freedom Act:

- Establishes a comprehensive, nationwide network of high-speed EV chargers along the National Highway System within five years;
- Helps secure the automotive and infrastructure jobs of the future and create thousands of good-paying jobs with strong labor standards to protect the hardworking Americans who will build an EV future, including Buy America, prevailing wage, labor neutrality, preference for local hiring, employee classification and training standards;
- Enhances environmental justice provisions by ensuring at least 50% of grant funding goes toward frontline, vulnerable and disadvantaged communities,
- Ensures the chargers built along the National Highway System keep up with new technology to achieve a simple goal—fully power up EVs in the time it takes to fill up gas and diesel tanks;

- Promotes interoperability so drivers don't have to fear that chargers won't be compatible with their cars; and
- Prioritizes accessibility by guaranteeing that payment methods are secure, convenient, and equal access and that all charging stations are ADA compliant.

The EV Freedom Act in the 117th Congress includes key improvements:

- Strengthens labor protections by adding in (1) preference for local hiring, (3) neutrality towards organized labor and (3) employee classification. These are in addition to the buy America and prevailing wage requirements in the 116th version.
- Speeds up plan development and grant timeline from “3 years after enactment” to “1 year after enactment” to ensure we are meeting the urgency of the moment.
- Bolsters environmental justice provisions by prioritizing grant proposals in frontline, vulnerable and disadvantaged communities and ensuring at least 50% of grant funding goes toward frontline, vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

We envision a future in which every car on the road is an electric one built here in the United States by unionized workers. This bill will bring us much closer to that future.

For more information on the EV Freedom Act, please contact Courtney Laudick (Courtney.Laudick@mail.house.gov) with Congressman Levin.

Sincerely,

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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress