

June 28, 2016

Matt Carlin
Commissioner, Department of Public Safety

SUBJECT: SUPPORT – AMENDMENTS TO 780 CMR, BUILDING REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

Dear Commissioner Carlin:

Global Automakers, www.globalautomakers.org, represents international motor vehicle manufacturers, original equipment suppliers, and other automotive-related trade associations. We work with industry leaders, legislators, regulators, and other stakeholders in the United States in order to create public policy that improves motor vehicle safety, encourages technological innovation and protects our planet. Our members sell 57% of new motor vehicles and 81% of green vehicles in the Commonwealth. Global Automakers.

We are writing to express our support for proposed amendments to the Massachusetts State Building Code that would better prepare new buildings for electric vehicle (EV) adoption.

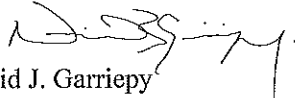
It has been 25 years since our member companies became the first to successfully introduce hybrid electric vehicles into the market and they continue to invest heavily in alternative fuel and green technology. These investments have not only led to the introduction of battery electric, plug-in hybrid electric and fuel cell electric vehicles, but have resulted in the reduction of greenhouse gases, improvements in fuel efficiency and further reduction of vehicle emissions.

Massachusetts, along with California, Oregon and five other northeastern states committed to placing 3.3 million zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) on the roads by 2025. Massachusetts' portion of that commitment is to sell 300,000 vehicles in the same timeframe. Automakers' investments in ZEVs are only part of the equation to building a green car market. States also play a critical role in developing the market, and these code changes would supplement current efforts in Massachusetts such as the MOR-EV program which provides rebates for the purchase or lease of a ZEV.

As the number of ZEVs in Massachusetts increases, having the infrastructure in place to support this growth will be important. On average, vehicles spend the vast majority of the time parked at either residences or places of employment, and therefore, having the ability to charge EVs at those locations is important in a consumer's decision to purchase a ZEV. In addition to fostering the development of necessary infrastructure, these changes to the building code will also create savings by making new construction EV ready today and thereby eliminating the need for future retrofits.

Global Automakers and our member companies are committed to building a mass market for ZEVs that encompasses a growing number, and a more diverse, group of consumers. We applaud the Department for including amendments to the building codes to include EV readiness and urge inclusion of these amendments in final passage.

Sincerely,



David J. Garriepy
Manager
State Government Affairs