



Director's Office

One Capitol Hill | Providence, RI 02908 | (401) 222-2280

May 21, 2026

The Honorable Louis P. DiPalma
Chair
Senate Committee on Finance
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Senate Bill No. 2550 – An Act Relating To State Affairs And Government -- Motor Vehicles Owned By A Governmental Body

Dear Chair DiPalma,

Thank you for providing the Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance (“Division”) within the Department of Administration (“Department”) the opportunity to submit our comments in response to Senate Bill No. 2550, which requires the Division to include information on the number of hybrid, combustion engine, plug-in hybrid, and to Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs) in the light duty fleet in our annual fleet report.

In support of the Governor’s Lead by Example Executive Order 23-06, the State Fleet Operations (SFO) annual report already proactively includes information regarding the composition of the light duty vehicle fleet as it relates to ZEVs. We also comply with the requirements of the federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58— Aug. 8, 2005), including reporting light duty vehicle purchases and compliance towards clean emission vehicle requirements. As such, we are happy to continue furnishing this requested information.

However, the Division respectfully requests that the legislative definition of ZEV be amended to be inclusive of both Plug-in Hybrid Vehicles (PHEVs) and Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs). Under the Advanced Clean Cars II regulations, which have been promulgated in Rhode Island and across the country, both PHEVs and BEVs, as well as fuel-cell electric vehicles (FCEVs), are all considered compliant with the ZEV requirements as they all emit zero tailpipe emissions while operating on battery power.

The Division appreciates the opportunity to share its comments with the Committee. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact my office at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marco Schiappa".

Marco Schiappa
Acting Director, Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance

cc: The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Finance
The Honorable Lamnis Vargas
Kristen Silvia, Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Legislation
Jamie Plume, Committee Clerk