



THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

March 8, 2019

Mr. John Couture, Chair  
Board of Building Regulations and Standards

Dear Mr. Couture,

We write to express strong support for including "EV-ready" wiring for new construction in the State Building Code.

The proposed EV-ready wiring provision is critical to the future of EVs (Electric Vehicles) in Massachusetts and, per Chapter 448 of the Acts of 2016, well within the Board's authority to adopt.

As documented in the Massachusetts Comprehensive Energy Plan and the Future of Transportation Commission Report (both released in December 2018), achieving widespread electrification of the transportation sector is critical to reducing the state's reliance on fossil fuels and meeting our legal obligations under the Global Warming Solutions Act. To this end, the Commonwealth in 2014 committed to the goal of having 300,000 EVs on our roads by 2025. This commitment has been reaffirmed by the Baker Administration and by the Legislature with the passage of Chapter 448 of the Acts of 2016 (An Act Promoting Zero Emission Vehicle Adoption).

One current barrier to greater EV adoption is the cost of installing EV charging stations. The proposed EV-ready wiring provision is a practical and affordable solution to this problem. For a typical residential property, EV-ready wiring adds no more than \$300 to new construction costs per EV parking spot, but saves an average of \$3,500 in avoided retrofit costs when a charging station is installed. For commercial construction, EV-ready wiring adds an estimated \$1,650 per EV parking space, but can save up to \$7,000 on the cost of installing each charging station.

The substantial cost savings that result from EV-ready wiring have led a diverse set of jurisdictions including California, Hawaii, Washington State, Denver, and New York City to adopt building code provisions similar to the one currently before the Board.

The EV-ready wiring provision will make charging station installation a significantly more affordable choice for Massachusetts residents and businesses, speed the adoption of EVs statewide, and help the state meet its Global Warming Solutions Act obligations, all at a minimal upfront cost.

We urge the Board to adopt it.

Sincerely,

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