

**STATEMENT OF THE
AMERICAN CAR RENTAL ASSOCIATION
TO THE
HOUSE ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE'S
ENERGY SUBCOMMITTEE
HEARING ON
H.R. 1512 -- "THE CLEAN FUTURE ACT" -- AND 3
ADDITIONAL BILLS**

MAY 5, 2021

The Board of Directors and members of the American Car Rental Association (ACRA) respectfully submit this statement to the Energy Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee on the occasion of the Subcommittee's hearing on H.R. 1512 – the "CLEAN Future Act" and three other bills to promote the equitable and widespread introduction of electric vehicles in the United States over the next 20 years. ACRA asks that this statement be included in the official record of the hearing.

ACRA thanks you Chairman Rush and Ranking Member Upton -- for convening this important hearing. ACRA's members look forward to working with you and your staff as our industry – and the nation – moves toward a sustainable mobility future for all light duty vehicles – including vehicles in the nation's car rental fleet.

The American Car Rental Association

The American Car Rental Association is the national representative for over 98% of our nation's car rental industry. ACRA's membership is comprised of over 300 car rental companies, including all of the brands you would recognize such as Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, Fox, Hertz, National, Sixt and Thrifty. ACRA members also include many system licensees and franchisees, mid-size, regional and independent car rental

companies as well as smaller, “mom & pop” operators. ACRA members have almost 2 million registered vehicles in service in the United States, with fleets ranging in size from one million cars to ten cars.

ACRA’s Position on the Bills Under Review Today

ACRA supports Title IV of H.R. 1512 and H.R. 2852 in their promotion of widespread and accessible electric vehicle charging infrastructure. ACRA members would likely, perhaps in partnership with cities, counties and airports, seek charging infrastructure grants authorized by these bills to charge not just their rental fleets but also public and private vehicles. Without such an investment in charging infrastructure, the goals of sustainable mobility will remain on the horizon rather than achieved in the coming years.

The Role of the Car Rental Industry in Achieving Sustainable Mobility

ACRA members on average purchase one in every eight new light duty vehicles sold in the United States each year. 25% of all light duty vehicle miles travelled in the United States each year are in a rented vehicle. Thus, the car rental industry is a key participant in the drive for sustainable mobility. In many instances, a driver’s first experience in a zero emissions vehicle will be in the rental car context. Combining all these factors, the car rental industry likely is the most important shared mobility stakeholder for converting “motor vehicle trips” by an individual to “zero emission vehicle trips” – even more important than individually-owned vehicles.

Key Positive Constructs for Achieving Light Duty Vehicle Decarbonization

ACRA’s Board of Directors has adopted a “Statement on Sustainable Mobility” that encourages federal, state and local policymakers to pursue the following constructs for achieving light duty vehicle decarbonization. We urge the members of this Subcommittee and your colleagues in the House and the Senate to consider these constructs as you develop legislation to promote a sustainable mobility future for the United States.

- Public charging infrastructure must support “open fleet” usage models – especially for shared mobility service models to flourish;
- Charging infrastructure must provide an opportunity for customers to charge at home, at work and at play;
- Charging hardware and software must be standardized so that all electric vehicles can charge at every charging station and “Level 3” (fast charging) must be widely available to duplicate the internal combustion engine “refueling expectations of consumers;
- Co-investment in private infrastructure that supports adoption of electric vehicles;
- Electricity grid infrastructure must be resilient to ensure the electric vehicle power supply is available where and when it is needed to respond to electric vehicle load demands (which likely will be very different than residential or commercial demands on the grid);
- Incentives for fleet transition; and,
- Co-investment in upgrade to facilitate fleet charging (not only the chargers but upgrading the grid and substations, etc.).

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If members of the Committee or your staff have questions regarding the information in this statement or need further information on ACRA and the American car rental industry, please do not hesitate to contact Greg Scott, ACRA's Government Relations Representative (gscott@merevir.com or 202-297-5123).

In advance, thank you for your attention to the information in this statement.