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March 10, 2023
Transportation Committee

Re: SB1310
Relating to electric vehicle charging station installation in condominiums; and to provide a penalty.

To the Committee on Transportation:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony and support for SB1310. ChargePoint is a strong supporter of the decarbonization of the transportation system and looks forward to continuing to work with the Legislative Assembly to accelerate these efforts. Over 80% of electric vehicle (EV) charging happens at home today. Legislation like SB1310 supports individuals looking to transition to an EV by ensuring that they have the right to install an electric vehicle charging station at their condominium. Right to Charge legislation, such as SB1310, safeguards that condo owners looking to drive electric do not face unnecessary hurdles to installing a charging station and establishes a process for boards to approve such applicants. Residents seeking to install a charging station are responsible for the costs associated with the installation and should be endowed with the right to incur these costs on their property.

BACKGROUND

ChargePoint is a world leading electric vehicle (EV) charging network, providing scalable solutions for every charging scenario from home and multifamily to workplace, parking, hospitality, retail and transport fleets of all types. ChargePoint's cloud subscription platform and software-defined charging hardware are designed to enable businesses to support drivers, add the latest software features and expand fleet needs with minimal disruption to overall business.

ChargePoint's hardware offerings include Level 2 (L2) and DC fast charging (DCFC) products. With modular design to help minimize downtime and make maintenance and repair more seamless, all products are also UL-listed and CE (EU) certified.

ChargePoint's primary business model consists of selling smart charging solutions directly to businesses and organizations while offering tools that empower station owners to deploy EV charging designed for their individual application and use case. ChargePoint provides charging network services and data-driven, cloud-enabled capabilities that enable site hosts to better manage their charging assets and optimize services.

ADDRESSING SAFETY CONCERNS

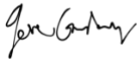
Safety is an intrinsic component of the trainings provided for certified installers. For the installation of an electric vehicle charging station or electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE), charging networks like ChargePoint work with partners, such as utilities and qualified electrician networks, to ensure that all installation is completed according to local rules and guidelines for who is certified to install such equipment. Additionally, ChargePoint offers ChargePoint University to support installers to ensure they have the information needed to efficiently and accurately install EVSE.

Lastly, ChargePoint seeks to highlight that there is significant data to support that electric vehicles are no more dangerous than traditional internal combustion vehicles. According to the National Fire Protection Agency, all vehicle fires account for only roughly 16% of all reported fires. It is extremely rare for a vehicle to catch fire in a garage. Furthermore, in 2022, the National Transportation Safety Board released a study that found per 100,000 vehicles sold, hybrid vehicles experienced 3,475 vehicle fires, gasoline-powered vehicles had 1,530, and EVs experienced only 25 fires. Fires attributed to EVs were found to be due to battery issues rather than an electrical wiring problem.

Conclusion

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed legislation included in this testimony. We look forward to serving as a resource to the Committee as it continues to evaluate policies that can reduce emissions and empower North Dakotans seeking to install EVSE at their homes.

Sincerely,



Jena Ginsburg
Manager, Public Policy
ChargePoint