

Thank you, Mister Chair and members of the committee. My name is Ruth Hund. I am a resident of Golden, Colorado. I own and drive a 2017 Chevy Volt, a plug-in hybrid.

I bought the Volt because it would get me to and from work on a charge and I could still drive down to Arizona to visit my son who was attending university there at the time. Let me be clear. EVs are not THE answer to our climate crisis. We need many answers, including a safe, robust, and convenient statewide public transportation system. EVs are an important piece of this huge puzzle that we must solve.

On a good day in the summer my Volt can take me 60 miles on a charge. On a cold snowy day, maybe 40 miles. Sometimes I have to drive more than 40 miles and that's when I look for charging stations. I want to use electricity only, if at all possible. I can tell you from experience that there are charging station deserts in the metro area and certainly in rural areas. I am often in the DU area and there is one charger available for the non-student public. It is almost always in use by the time I get there. Full EVs with 200-300 mile ranges need to charge in rural areas if one is to drive to visit one's family in a different state.

This bill does not tell local governments how to do their job. It simply requires a reasonable timeframe to get that job done. It prevents those in government who are opposed to EVs, and these public servants do exist, from killing an EV charging project by delay. As a resident of Colorado, I would like a choice in what I use to make my vehicle go. This bill helps me have that choice. This bill cuts through red tape. It encourages the free-market to innovate and allow those innovations to be implemented in a reasonable amount of time. If one is against government bureaucracy, one must, logically, support this bill.

Please vote yes on HB24-1173.