



FACT SHEET

AB 591 – EV Chargers For All Act

SUMMARY

Assembly Bill (AB) 591 will transform consumer confidence in transitioning to electric vehicles (EVs) by requiring charging stations to be accessible to all types of EVs.

BACKGROUND

Executive Order [N-79-20](#) set the ambitious goal that mandates all new cars sold in California to be zero-emission vehicles by 2035 as a way to mitigate climate change. The transportation sector is responsible for more than half of California's carbon pollution, 80 percent of smog-forming pollution, and 95 percent of toxic diesel emissions.

Most EV owners have home chargers and are confident in their vehicles' ranges for daily usage. However, for longer excursions such as LA to SF, most EV owners need to rely on public chargers.

Charger connectors, which determine whether a vehicle can charge when it arrives at a public charging station, remain fragmented across all EV sectors. EV chargers are divided into three categories: Level 1, Level 2, and direct current (DC) fast chargers. Direct current (DC) fast charging connectors for passenger cars, specifically, are split among three designs. For a driver, this fragmentation means that fast charging requires not only that a driver find a nearby charging station but verify whether that charging station has a connector compatible with their vehicle. This inconsistency and lack of certainty severely inconveniences EV drivers, creates confusion and hinders widespread vehicle-grid integration. Additionally, many potential EV owners cite "range anxiety" as a

main hesitancy in trading in their gas-powered vehicle.

The lack of connector standardization increases the number of fast chargers needed to meet California's mobility demands and necessitates more financial investment, more planning and more time. Mandating that EV chargers have charging connectors that work for all cars will improve convenience, reduce the number of chargers needed statewide, and maximize access to charging, regardless of the vehicle.

AB 591 promotes greater confidence and convenience among EV drivers, establishing certainty that their cars can be charged at any electric vehicle charging station in California.

THIS BILL

AB 591 builds out electric vehicle charging infrastructure by ensuring all chargers are accessible to all drivers. AB 591 requires:

- 1) All electric vehicle chargers (excluding those in private residences) shall include universal connectors that can charge all EVs.
- 2) Additionally, all EV charging stations shall be open to the public.

SUPPORT

The Greenlining Institute (cosponsor)

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