



# SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

Oregon State Legislature  
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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Bill expands electric vehicle charging network, propels Oregon's economy** *SB 536A encourages use of electric vehicles by allowing state agencies to install public charging stations*

SALEM—Getting around Oregon in an electric vehicle may become easier thanks to a bill approved by the Senate this morning. SB 536A, which passed on a 23-2 vote, authorizes state agencies to install public electric vehicle (EV) fast-charging stations to support a growing network of stations along Interstate 5 and other key routes where cars can recharge.

“Increasing the supply of EV charging stations will benefit Oregon’s economy by putting the state at the forefront of innovations for electric vehicles,” said Senator Jackie Dingfelder (D-Portland), chair of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. “Easy access to charging stations will promote use of electric vehicles, which leads to less air pollution, less reliance on foreign oil, and advancement towards our environmental goals.”

Currently, over 80 percent of electric vehicle users charge their cars using electricity from their home. As more consumers elect to purchase electric vehicles, however, more public charging stations will be necessary to support longer trips. SB 536A will pave the way for more charging stations along heavily traveled routes by allowing state agencies to provide public access to EV charging. These additional stations can help satisfy increased demand from the public while also providing an infrastructure for agencies that purchase EVs.

“In my district, innovative companies like Brammo are leading the way for new technologies in transportation,” said Senator Alan Bates (D-Medford). “Promoting access to electricity at state buildings will increase demand for EVs, which could lead to more high-paying jobs in my district and across Oregon.”

Under the provisions of SB 536A, state agencies may contract with a private vendor to install, maintain, and provide electricity to a publicly-available charging station. The bill ensures that the state does not subsidize electricity costs to customers or the costs of the station operator.

“Promoting clean energy technology supports our innovative Oregon companies while also protecting our environment and natural resources,” said Senate Majority Leader Diane Rosenbaum (D-Portland). “The access to public charging stations provided by SB 536A will propel Oregon’s reputation as a leader in electric vehicles and will boost our economy.”

The bill now goes to the Oregon House of Representatives for consideration.

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