

To: The Honorable Dr. Charles Schwertner, Chair Members, Senate Committee on Business and Commerce Re: SB 1001 Relating to the regulation of electric vehicle supply equipment. From: Cyrus Reed, Sierra Club, <u>cyrus.reed@sierraclub.org</u>, 512-888-9991

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Dear Senator Schwertner and members,

The Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter supports SB 1001 which would require the state of Texas to create an inspection and regulatory framework for electric vehicle supply equipment. Any person who has driven an electric vehicle in Texas and relied on public charging stations realizes that the quality, safety and availability of these stations are haphazard at best, and the lack of basic standards and certainty has likely created barriers to the further use of electric vehicles. Many drivers end up choosing to install expensive chargers at their homes and forgo using public chargers precisely because of their unreliability. The fact is no one is adequately regulating electric vehicle supply equipment and we do not believe that the Department of Agriculture is the right agency to regulate such equipment.

Under S.B. 1001, TDLR (as well as the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation) would have the authority to adopt national standards and enforce compliance, including standards related to the accuracy of the measuring devices located inside the electric vehicle charging stations. This will provide electric vehicle owners assurance they are receiving accurate electric fuel charges when refueling at commercial charging stations in Texas.

The bill authorizes registration, requires fees, requires inspections, requires TDLR to respond to complaints, and assures compliance with these standards.

This is an excellent bill and specifically exempts electric vehicle supply equipment that is only intended for private use. The Sierra Club is appreciative of the efforts of the Chairman in proposing this important improvement so that customers know what they are paying for and can have some assurance that electric vehicle charging stations will actually work!