

Raised Bill 7009
An Act Concerning Electric and Zero Emission Vehicles

Testimony of Commissioner Melody A. Currey
Energy & Technology Committee
March 17, 2015

The Department of Administrative Services (DAS), which houses the Office of the State Building Inspector (OSBI) who is responsible for State Building Code and other code related matters offers the following comments on **Raised Bill 7009 “AAC Electric and Zero Emissions Vehicles.”**

Specifically, DAS wishes to speak to section 11 which proposes that:

Not later than January 1, 2016, the Building Code shall be amended to require all single family and multifamily residential buildings, and all commercial buildings, constructed after January 1, 2016, to include provisions for electric circuits capable of supporting electric vehicle charging equipment.

The bill also requires that *not later than January 1, 2016, the State Building Inspector shall issue an official interpretation of the State Building Code, concerning the installation of electric vehicle charging equipment in residential and commercial buildings. The interpretation shall be for the purpose of streamlining municipal permitting requirements for the installation of electric vehicle charging equipment in residential and commercial buildings.*

DAS supports the intent of the bill and offers no policy position on the promotion and expansion of electric and zero emission vehicles in the State of Connecticut. However; DAS has concerns with section 11, which attempts to mandate in statute when and how the State Building Code accounts for equipment with code impacts.

By way of background for the Committee’s consideration. The proposed electric circuits in State Building Code is not necessary, there are provisions in the model code we plan to adopt later this year for installing these systems.

In addition, OSBI has sponsored an effort between CT Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority and CT Building Officials Association to develop a permit

application supplement for PV installations, which is now in wide use across the state. We can do the same for an EV supplement if everyone thinks it is needed; without mandating a statutory action in statute.

We thank the Committee for allowing us to provide comment.