



HOUSE BILL 296: EV Charging Station/Parking.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:	House Energy and Public Utilities. If favorable, re-refer to Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	March 23, 2021
Introduced by:	Reps. Warren, von Haefen, Szoka, Autry	Prepared by:	Chris Saunders
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H296-CSTQ-10		Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: *The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) to House Bill 296 would prohibit parking a vehicle in an electric vehicle charging station if the vehicle is not an electric vehicle connected to the charging equipment for the purpose of charging the vehicle, create an associated penalty, and establish signage requirements for electric vehicle charging stations.*

The PCS would clarify the prohibited conduct and preempt local governments from adopting or enforcing an ordinance with a penalty that differs from that included the bill for illegally parking in a space designated as an electric vehicle charging station.

CURRENT LAW AND BACKGROUND: Section 1 of S.L. 2019-132 exempted electric vehicle charging stations from regulation as public utilities, allowing wider proliferation of the charging stations. Under current State law, there is no penalty for parking in an electric vehicle charging station without connecting the vehicle to the charging equipment, though some municipalities have adopted ordinances to create such penalties.

The penalty for illegally parking in a handicapped parking spot is an infraction which carries a penalty of at least \$100, but not more than \$250.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 of the PCS would define an electric vehicle charging station as "a public or private parking space that is served by charging equipment that has as its primary purpose the transfer of electric energy to a battery or other energy storage device in an electric vehicle."

Section 2 would prohibit a person from parking a vehicle in an electric vehicle charging station on either public or private property unless the vehicle is an electric vehicle connected to the charging equipment for the purpose of charging the vehicle. The penalty for a violation would be an infraction and a fine of \$100. This would be enforceable by State and local authorities in their respective jurisdictions in the same manner as other parking laws and ordinances. Local governments would be preempted from adopting by ordinance any different penalty than the one established by this section.

This section would also establish signage requirements for electric vehicle charging stations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective December 1, 2021, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578