

HOUSE BILL 788: EV Charging Station/Parking.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Transportation. If favorable, re-refer to Judiciary. If favorable, re-refer to Finance. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and	Date:	April 30, 2019
Introduced by: Analysis of:	Operations of the House	Prepared by:	Wendy Ray Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: House bill 788 would prohibit parking of a vehicle that is not plugged into charging equipment in an electric vehicle charging station on public or private property if the space is designated for electric vehicle charging only by appropriate signage. Violation would be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S511, as introduced by Sens. Nickel, Rabon, Sawyer, which is currently in Senate Transportation.]

**CURRENT LAW:** There are currently no restrictions in State law regarding parking in electric vehicle charging stations. Generally, cities and counties have authority to adopt ordinances regulating parking. At least one municipality (Raleigh) has adopted an ordinance that prohibits parking in spaces designated as reserved for electric vehicles if the parked vehicle is nonelectric or electric and not plugged into the charging station.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 788 would prohibit parking of a vehicle in an electric vehicle charging station on public or private property if the vehicle is not connected to the charging equipment. In order for the prohibition to apply, a space would have to be designated as a charging station, for electric vehicle charging only, by a sign consistent with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways.

Violation of the prohibition would be an infraction punishable by a fine of \$100. It would be enforceable by any State, county, city, or other municipal authority in the same manner as other parking laws and ordinances are enforced. Municipalities would be authorized to pass ordinances further prohibiting parking in electric vehicle charging stations and providing for higher penalties.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The act would become effective December 1, 2019, and would apply to offenses committed on or after that date.

Karen Cochrane-Brown Director



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