



For Immediate Release

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Statement from the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition on the Proposed Capital Bill and Electric Vehicle Fee

****Media interviews available upon request****

"The draft Rebuild Illinois \$41.5 billion Capital Bill is a good starting point for a discussion on critically needed investments in the state's infrastructure and follows through with Governor Pritzker's promise to rebuild our state after a decade without desperately needed upgrades.

"From the standpoint of clean energy and job creation, the initial draft has two flaws that stand out: first, a relatively tiny investment in mass transit that doesn't match Metra's capital needs, let alone the needs of a dozen or more mass transit agencies across the state; and second, a tax on electric vehicles (EVs) that raises very little revenue but will punish those who buy electric vehicles with one of the highest annual registration fees in the country.

"Raising the registration fee from \$34 every other year to \$250 every year raises just \$4 million annually out of a \$41.5 billion program, and thus is simply a punitive tax like those on cigarettes or alcohol except without the revenue. Illinois is a leader in clean energy, we should not punish a growing industry and those who buy zero emissions vehicles, including those made right here in Illinois, and shortchanging the robust but aging mass transit infrastructure that so many Illinoisans count on to get them to work and school.

"This is the time to encourage and to incentivize the use of electric cars and to support the use of mass commuter transit as an alternative to more cars on the road. This is the time to support all of the priorities under the four pillars of the proposed Clean Energy Jobs Act. It's not too late for the Rebuild Illinois Capital Bill to correct these critical missteps and to ensure that this legislative effort lives up to its full potential."

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About the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition

The ICJC is a group of more than 200 organizations, businesses, and community leaders working together to advance clean energy jobs, lower energy bills, and healthier air and water. The group championed the Future Energy Jobs Act (FEJA), which passed the Illinois General Assembly with bipartisan support and was signed into law in 2016. The law positioned Illinois to become a leader in



clean energy and to capture the jobs and investments that come with it. The ICJC is currently working to pass the Clean Energy Jobs Act (CEJA).