Implementing the Advanced Clean Trucks Rule (ACTR) is the quickest and most effective way to address the pollution from medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

Medium- and heavy-duty vehicles – which include buses, pickups, vans, garbage trucks and long-haul trucks – are only 9% of the state’s 4.2 million registered vehicles, they contribute 21 percent of global warming emissions from all on-road vehicles in the state.

The Zero Emission Truck Act of 2023 requires the Maryland Department of Environment to adopt the Advanced Clean Trucks Rule (ACTR), requiring vehicle manufacturers to sell an increasing percentage of new zero-emission trucks and school buses through 2035. The schedule gives both industry and infrastructure the time necessary to transition to a cleaner future.

Maryland would be joining eight other states in adopting the ACTR.

**HEALTH AND EQUITY**

The daily, high level of pollution exposure is associated with higher rates of chronic heart and lung diseases, asthma, certain cancers, as well as other diseases such as diabetes, and cognitive decline.

Traffic-related air pollution and resulting disease burden are not borne equally by all Marylanders. **Communities living near highways are disproportionately people of color because of a long history of redlining and residential segregation.**

Compounding these impacts, low-wealth communities are more impacted by transportation-related air pollution, even though they generally own and operate motor vehicles less than people of higher socioeconomic status.

Implementing the ACTR in Maryland would avoid 1,800 premature deaths and savings to the health system of almost $20 billion.

Anywhere from 3.8-5.6% (~325,000 people) of Marylanders live near a highway, which is among the highest in the nation.

**EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS & LONG-TERM COST SAVINGS**

Although initial up-front costs for electric trucks are greater than diesel engine vehicles, projected fueling and maintenance costs are comparatively lower over time, resulting in savings over time for companies that adopt the transition to electric trucks.