



February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Honorable Mark Warner  
United States Senate  
703 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tim Kaine  
United States Senate  
231 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warner and Senator Kaine,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce's members in support of Northern Virginia Community College's request for congressionally directed spending. Specifically, the Chamber asks that you support NOVA's request for funding to expand and equip the advanced automotive technology program facility for hybrid and electric vehicle training.

The Advanced Vehicle Technology CSC or AAS specializations students will earn with this expansion will directly benefit many first-generation college students and one of the most diverse student bodies in all of NOVA's campuses and across the state. As NOVA's Alexandria campus is the only program in the region that offers hands-on HEV training, the College is best positioned to make a real impact in meeting workforce needs in this essential, highly skilled field.

Also, our region has the highest density of fully electric and hybrid electric vehicles in the state. This number is increasing dramatically year over year with EV sales increasing by 65% and all hybrid & electric vehicles in the country totaling 12%. All vehicle manufacturers are offering more Hybrid and EV vehicle options with a high voltage powertrain whether it's a hybrid or full electric vehicle. Given this exponential growth, automotive industry employers in our region have a steadily increasing need for the skilled technicians NOVA can train to meet their current and future needs.

The Chamber strongly supports this timely opportunity for the College to do even more to fill additional critical employment and community service needs.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Clemente  
Vice President of Government Relations  
Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce