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AB-1423 Transportation electrification: electric vehicle charging stations: payment methods. (2025-2026)

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Assembly Bill No. 1423

CHAPTER 192

An act to amend Section 44268.2 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to transportation electrification.

[Approved by Governor October 01, 2025. Filed with Secretary of State October 01, 2025.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1423, Irwin. Transportation electrification: electric vehicle charging stations: payment methods.

Existing law prohibits requiring a person desiring to use an electric vehicle charging station, as defined, that requires payment of a fee from paying a subscription fee in order to use the station, or requiring the person to obtain membership in any club, association, or organization as a condition of using the station. Existing law authorizes an electric vehicle charging station to offer services on a subscription- or membership-only basis if the station allows nonsubscribers or nonmembers to use the station through a contactless payment method that accepts major credit and debit cards, as specified, and either an automated toll-free telephone number or a short message system (SMS) that provides the customer with the option to initiate a charging session and submit payment. Existing law authorizes the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, by regulation that is effective no earlier than January 1, 2028, to add to or subtract from those required payment methods, as specified.

This bill would instead authorize the commission to modify, add to, or subtract from those required payment methods, as appropriate in light of changing technologies or cost impacts.

This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 44268.2 of the Health and Safety Code proposed by SB 533 to be operative only if this bill and SB 533 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 44268.2 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

44268.2. (a) (1) Persons desiring to use an electric vehicle charging station that requires payment of a fee shall not be required to pay a subscription fee in order to use the station, and shall not be required to obtain membership in any club, association, or organization as a condition of using the station. The total actual charges for the use of an electric vehicle charging station, including any additional network roaming charges for nonmembers, shall be disclosed to the public at the point of sale.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an electric vehicle charging station may offer services on a subscription- or membership-only basis provided those electric vehicle charging stations allow nonsubscribers or nonmembers the ability to use the electric vehicle charging station through the payment options detailed in paragraph (3).

(3) (A) An electric vehicle charging station that requires payment of a fee and that is first installed or first made publicly available on or after July 10, 2023, at a minimum, shall provide both of the following:

(i) A contactless payment method that accepts major credit and debit cards. For purposes of this clause, "contactless payment method" means a secure method for consumers to purchase services using a debit card, credit card, smartcard, or another payment device, by using radio frequency identification (RFID) technology and near-field communication (NFC).

(ii) Either an automated toll-free telephone number or a short message system (SMS) that provides the electric vehicle charging customer with the option to initiate a charging session and submit payment.

(B) A direct current fast charging station that is first installed or first made publicly available on or after July 10, 2023, shall also include Plug and Charge payment capabilities meeting the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 15118 standard no later than July 10, 2024.

(C) The commission may modify, add to, or subtract from the payment methods required by this paragraph, as appropriate in light of changing technologies or cost impacts.

(b) The service provider of electric vehicle service equipment at an electric vehicle charging station or its designee shall disclose to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory the electric vehicle charging station's geographic location, a schedule of fees, accepted methods of payment, and the amount of network roaming charges for nonmembers, if any.

(c) Electric vehicle charging stations shall be labeled in accordance with Part 309 of Title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and, where commercially reasonable and feasible, may be clearly marked with appropriate directional signage in the parking area or facility where they are located.

(d) (1) If no interoperability billing standards have been adopted by a national standards organization by January 1, 2015, the commission may adopt interoperability billing standards for network roaming payment methods for electric vehicle charging stations. If the commission adopts interoperability billing standards, all electric vehicle charging stations that require payment shall meet those standards within one year. Any standards adopted by the commission shall consider other governmental or industry-developed interoperability billing standards and may adopt interoperability billing standards promulgated by an outside authoritative body.

(2) (A) The commission shall apply any network roaming standards adopted pursuant to this section only to major electric vehicle charging network providers.

(B) (i) For purposes of this section, "major electric vehicle charging network provider" means an electric vehicle charging network provider that manages at least 100 publicly available electric vehicle charging stations in the state.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), the commission may increase the number of publicly available electric vehicle charging stations a major electric vehicle charging network provider must manage in its network before triggering network roaming standards as part of any standards adopted pursuant to this section.

(C) Network roaming standards adopted pursuant to this section shall require major electric vehicle charging network providers to accept payment for charging made by users from multiple other major electric vehicle charging network providers and automakers to simplify drivers' ability to find an electric vehicle charging station and pay for charging.

(D) Network roaming standards adopted pursuant to this section shall ensure major electric vehicle charging network providers maintain the ability to choose bilateral or hub-based agreements for roaming agreements.

SEC. 1.5. Section 44268.2 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

44268.2. (a) (1) Persons desiring to use an electric vehicle charging station that requires payment of a fee shall not be required to pay a subscription fee in order to use the station, and shall not be required to obtain membership in any club, association, or organization as a condition of using the station. The total actual charges for the use of an electric vehicle charging station, including any additional network roaming charges for nonmembers, shall be disclosed to the public at the point of sale.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an electric vehicle charging station may offer services on a subscription- or membership-only basis provided those electric vehicle charging stations allow nonsubscribers or nonmembers the ability to use the electric vehicle charging station through the payment options detailed in paragraph (3).

(3) (A) An electric vehicle charging station that requires payment of a fee and that is first installed or first made publicly available on or after July 10, 2023, at a minimum, shall provide both of the following:

(i) A contactless payment method that accepts major credit and debit cards. For purposes of this clause, "contactless payment method" means a secure method for consumers to purchase services using a debit card, credit card, smartcard, or another payment device, by using radio frequency identification (RFID) technology and near-field communication (NFC).

(ii) Either an automated toll-free telephone number or a short message system (SMS) that provides the electric vehicle charging customer with the option to initiate a charging session and submit payment.

(B) A direct current fast charging station that is first installed or first made publicly available on or after July 10, 2023, shall also include Plug and Charge payment capabilities meeting the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 15118 standard no later than July 10, 2024.

(C) The commission may modify, add to, or subtract from the payment methods required by this paragraph, as appropriate in light of changing technologies or cost impacts.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), an electric vehicle charging station may require payment for charging services to be made through the use of an internet-based application if the electric vehicle charging station is on the premises of an arena that has a seating capacity of at least 15,000 seats and can only be accessed through the use of that internet-based application.

(c) The service provider of electric vehicle service equipment at an electric vehicle charging station or its designee shall disclose to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory the electric vehicle charging station's geographic location, a schedule of fees, accepted methods of payment, and the amount of network roaming charges for nonmembers, if any.

(d) Electric vehicle charging stations shall be labeled in accordance with Part 309 of Title 16 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and, where commercially reasonable and feasible, may be clearly marked with appropriate directional signage in the parking area or facility where they are located.

(e) (1) If no interoperability billing standards have been adopted by a national standards organization by January 1, 2015, the commission may adopt interoperability billing standards for network roaming payment methods for electric vehicle charging stations. If the commission adopts interoperability billing standards, all electric vehicle charging stations that require payment shall meet those standards within one year. Any standards adopted by the commission shall consider other governmental or industry-developed interoperability billing standards and may adopt interoperability billing standards promulgated by an outside authoritative body.

(2) (A) The commission shall apply any network roaming standards adopted pursuant to this section only to major electric vehicle charging network providers.

(B) (i) For purposes of this section, "major electric vehicle charging network provider" means an electric vehicle charging network provider that manages at least 100 publicly available electric vehicle charging stations in the state.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), the commission may increase the number of publicly available electric vehicle charging stations a major electric vehicle charging network provider must manage in its network before triggering network roaming standards as part of any standards adopted pursuant to this section.

(C) Network roaming standards adopted pursuant to this section shall require major electric vehicle charging network providers to accept payment for charging made by users from multiple other major electric vehicle charging network providers and automakers to simplify drivers' ability to find an electric vehicle charging station and pay for charging.

(D) Network roaming standards adopted pursuant to this section shall ensure major electric vehicle charging network providers maintain the ability to choose bilateral or hub-based agreements for roaming agreements.

SEC. 2. Section 1.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 44268.2 of the Health and Safety Code proposed by both this bill and Senate Bill 533. That section of this bill shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2026, (2) each bill amends Section 44268.2 of the Health and Safety Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after Senate Bill 533, in which case Section 1 of this bill shall not become operative.