Low and middle-income Arizonans are subsidizing wealthier Arizonans who can afford more expensive electric vehicles. A new Arizona government proposal would increase subsidies for wealthier Arizonans by allowing public utility companies to pass on the costs of building charging stations to utility company customers—including those who don’t own or can’t afford electric vehicles for themselves.

**THE PROBLEM**

Low and middle-income Arizonans are subsidizing wealthier Arizonans who can afford more expensive electric vehicles. A new Arizona government proposal would increase subsidies for wealthier Arizonans by allowing public utility companies to pass on the costs of building charging stations to utility company customers—including those who don’t own or can’t afford electric vehicles for themselves.

**HERE’S WHY SUBSIDIES DON’T WORK**

**THEY’RE WASTEFUL**

EVs provide a relatively small benefit.

For every $17 spent on EV subsidies, Arizonans gain only $1 in benefits.

**THEY’RE UNFAIR**

Low-income people who can’t afford to buy electric cars are subsidizing higher-income individuals.

More than 83% of federal EV subsidies go to households earning more than $100,000.

Electric car owners don’t pay their fair share for the roads they drive on.

On average, EV owners pay $500 less each year than non-EV owners for road maintenance.

**THEY’RE UNNECESSARY**

Arizona already has plenty of charging stations.

There is already a charging station for every 12 electric cars in Arizona—compared to the 249 gas-powered cars per gas pump.

Arizona already has plenty of electric vehicle subsidies.

EV owners already get federal subsidies worth up to $7,500, plus others from the state.

**POLICY SOLUTIONS THAT ACTUALLY WORK**

Promote free-market policies to encourage EV adoption. Public utilities should reward off-peak charging to promote EV ownership.

Make the costs of charging stations a true user fee. Public utilities should not be able to increase the utility bills of Arizonans to build charging stations that only benefit EV owners.

Encourage competition to lower costs of EV charging stations. By encouraging more competition and avoiding crony capitalism, private companies will have an incentive to build more charging stations without unfairly increasing people’s utility bills.

**ABOUT THE RESEARCH:**

It Ain’t Easy Being Green: A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Electric Vehicles in Arizona was authored by the Economic Research Center. The research was conducted using a cost-benefit analysis developed by economists at the Economic Research Center that analyzes the private and social costs and benefits associated with vehicle ownership in Arizona.