

HOUSE BILL 510

R2
HB 733/20 – ENT

1lr1867
CF 1lr1829

By: **Delegate Valentino-Smith**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation – Private Sector Transportation Projects Ombudsman –**
3 **Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the office of Private Sector Transportation Projects
5 Ombudsman within the Department of Transportation; requiring the Secretary of
6 Transportation to designate an individual to serve as Ombudsman; requiring the
7 Ombudsman to respond to concerns, complaints, and other inquiries from certain
8 entities regarding certain private sector transportation projects; providing that the
9 Ombudsman is an employee of the Department; requiring the Department to provide
10 the Ombudsman with sufficient resources to respond to all inquiries in an accurate
11 and timely manner; requiring the Department to include the name and contact
12 information of the Ombudsman on the Department’s website and in a certain
13 document; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the designation of a
14 Private Sector Transportation Projects Ombudsman.

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Transportation
17 Section 2–113
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2020 Replacement Volume)

20 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
21 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article – Transportation**

23 **2–113.**

24 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “OMBUDSMAN” MEANS THE PRIVATE SECTOR**
25 **TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS OMBUDSMAN.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) THERE IS A PRIVATE SECTOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**
2 **OMBUDSMAN.**

3 **(C) (1) THE SECRETARY SHALL DESIGNATE AN INDIVIDUAL TO SERVE AS**
4 **THE OMBUDSMAN.**

5 **(2) THE OMBUDSMAN SHALL RESPOND TO CONCERNS, COMPLAINTS,**
6 **AND OTHER INQUIRIES FROM STATE RESIDENTS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS,**
7 **AND OTHER ENTITIES REGARDING PRIVATE SECTOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**
8 **THAT ARE BEING DEVELOPED OR TESTED WITHIN THE STATE.**

9 **(D) (1) THE OMBUDSMAN IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE DEPARTMENT.**

10 **(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE OMBUDSMAN WITH**
11 **SUFFICIENT RESOURCES TO RESPOND TO ALL INQUIRIES IN AN ACCURATE AND**
12 **TIMELY MANNER.**

13 **(E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE THE NAME AND CONTACT**
14 **INFORMATION OF THE OMBUDSMAN:**

15 **(1) ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE; AND**

16 **(2) IN THE CONSOLIDATED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2021.