



**TESTIMONY FOR HB1424
PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS – PROCESS AND OVERSIGHT**

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Solomon

Committee: Environment and Transportation

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB1424 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state. We have over 30,000 members across the state.

Our members are very concerned about the status of transportation projects in Maryland. It seems as though there is no real master plan that connects the state and is environmentally responsible. Projects are approved willy-nilly and there is no real oversight.

In the past several years, the idea of using public-private partnerships to manage large projects has become popular. We have no structure for handling these kinds of partnerships. Our ability to manage projects without involving P3s is very much in question. Adding in P3s will only make this problem worse.

We are in need of oversight – badly. This bill will authorize a review board, which would lend some much-needed structure to this process. This is a good idea. The Maryland Legislative Coalition supports this bill and we recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in Committee.