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MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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March 2nd, 2021

Delegate Dereck E. Davis, Chair
Economic Matters Committee
231 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1396 – UNFAVORABLE – Maryland Healthy Working Families Act – Revisions and Public Health Emergency Leave

Dear Chairman Davis and Committee Members:

The Maryland Asphalt Association is comprised of 18 producer members representing more than 48 production facilities, 20 contractor members, 24 consulting engineer firms and 40 other associate members. Combined our members employ more than 4,000 Marylanders in our operations. We assist with the education of our workforce, sponsor safety activities and promote best practices while working diligently to produce the highest performing pavement materials with the lowest carbon footprint. We proactively work with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

We are unsure why this piece of legislation is needed. The Maryland Healthy Working Families Act is already law, requiring employers to provide earned sick and safe leave to their employees. Throughout the last year, our members have made every effort to ensure employees have the ability to take time off of work when a medical issue arises either for themselves or their family. Our business community has suffered immeasurable losses from this virus and we feel strongly that continued legislation that puts additional burdens on us is unnecessary and unfair.

We thank you for your time and consideration and ask for a UNFAVORABLE report on HB 1396.

Thank you,

Marshall Klinefelter
President
Maryland Asphalt Association