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February 17, 2021

The Hon. Kumar P. Barve, Chair
House Environment and Transportation Committee
House Office Building, Room 251
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1329 Maryland Transportation Authority- John F. Kennedy Memorial
Highway- Toll Plazas
Letter of Support

Dear Chairman Kumar and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County unanimously support HB 1329 Maryland Transportation Authority-John F. Kennedy Memorial Highway-Toll Plazas, which has a hearing scheduled for March 4, 2021.

It is our understanding this legislation will prohibit MTA from making any capital investment in the JFK toll plaza at the toll plaza, and requiring MTA to remove the toll plaza when it becomes functionally obsolete; and relocating the new toll plaza at a new location between MD Route 279 and MD Route 272.

Cecil County residents must pay a toll across the Susquehanna River to enter the rest of the State of Maryland. This toll plaza discourages economic and social interaction between Cecil County and Harford County as well as the western shore. Relocating the toll plaza will allow eastern Cecil County residents more access to central Maryland. Many Cecil County residents live on limited incomes but must travel to hospitals, doctors, and other service providers across the Susquehanna River. In addition, this will solve a traffic problem of interstate trucks on I-95 that reroute onto Route 40 to avoid paying the toll.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully request that the Environment and Transportation Committee consider a favorable report on HB 1329.

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Danielle Hornberger
Cecil County Executive

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Meffley".

Robert Meffley
Council President

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