



Delegate Maggie McIntosh, Chair
Appropriations Committee
121 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair
Environment & Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 5th, 2021

RE: HB 485 – UNFAVORABLE – Public-Private Partnerships – Process and Oversight

Dear Members of the Appropriations and Environment and Transportation Committees:


The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (“MTBMA”) and the Maryland Asphalt Association (“MAA”) collectively represent tens of thousands of Marylanders who operate in the areas of transportation construction, production and engineering. Together, for nearly 100 years these organizations have served as the voice of the transportation construction industry. The mission of both MTBMA and MAA is to encourage, develop, and protect the prestige of the transportation construction and materials industry in Maryland by establishing and maintaining respected relationships with federal, state, and local public officials. We proactively work with regulatory agencies and governing bodies to represent the interests of the transportation industry, and also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland’s multimodal transportation system.

HB 485 would establish the Public-Private Partnership Oversight Review Board that would review P3 pre-solicitation reports and make recommendations regarding the designation of a public infrastructure asset as a P3. This bill is entirely redundant and unnecessary. The State already has an oversight review board that reviews P3 projects called the Board of Public Works (“BPW”). In fact, the three members who make up the Board of Public Works, the Governor, the Treasurer, and the Comptroller – would be required members of this P3 Oversight Review Board. We cannot understand why such a board is needed when the BPW already reviews all of the tasks listed in this bill. Enacting such legislation would only further delay necessary transportation projects in our State and undermine the process already in place.

We thank you for your time and consideration and ask for an UNFAVORABLE report on HB 485.

Sincerely,


Michael Sakata
President & CEO, MTBMA


Marshall Klinefelter
President, MAA