



MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION



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

FAVORABLE

February 11th, 2021

RE: HB 649 – FAVORABLE – Transportation – Highway User Revenues – Revenue and Distribution

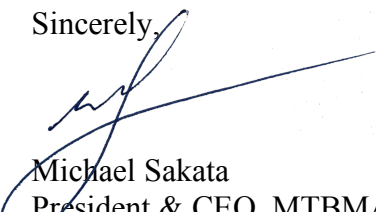
Dear Chairman Barve and Members of Environment and Transportation Committee:


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.

We support HB 649 because it will shift revenue attributable to the increase in the motor fuel tax rate due to adjustments for inflation through CPI calculations from the Transportation Trust Fund to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue account, also known as the Highway User Revenue (“HUR”) account. This will lead to an increase of \$204 million in local jurisdictions’ highway user revenues over a five-year-period, which is equal to the decrease expected in the Transportation Trust Fund. We are in favor of this change because local HUR funds are used for paving and resurfacing projects. It is imperative that our roads around the State are regularly maintained so that residents and non-residents alike are safe while utilizing these roads.

We thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue and we respectfully urge a **favorable** report on HB 649.

Sincerely,


Michael Sakata
President & CEO, MTBMA


Marshall Klinefelter
President, MAA