

January 12, 2022

The Honorable Guy Guzzone  
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
3 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis MD 21401

**Re: Letter of Support – Senate Bill 0210 – Tax Credits – Employer-Provided Commuter Benefits - Expansion**

Dear Chair Guzzone and Committee Members:

The members of the Maryland Transportation Commission (MTC) are writing to offer support for Senate Bill 0210, which would expand the available commuter benefits that an employer is able to claim as a business tax credit. The Bill adds Carpool as a form of Rideshare, as well as adding Telework, Active Transportation, and multimodal options for first- and last-mile benefits, which collectively provide more benefits and flexibility to employers and commuters in Maryland. The addition of these commuter benefit options will continue to make Maryland a competitive state for business by helping businesses attract and retain talent, all while helping to reduce congestion, conserve energy, protect the environment and improve the quality of life of all Marylanders.

While travel on Maryland's transportation system dropped to historic lows early in the pandemic, volumes have reached – and in some cases surpassed – pre-pandemic levels in 2021. In many cases, congestion levels are not back to pre-COVID-19 volumes mostly due to commuters traveling less and teleworking more as many employers have continued to offer flexible work schedules. This Bill will support Maryland businesses by enabling them to continue to provide flexible commuter benefits. Further, this Bill will support the continued reduction in congestion levels, making commuting easier, safer, cheaper and greener.


We respectfully request the Committee carefully consider this information when deliberating Senate Bill 210.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James Albert Calderwood  
Chairman

  
William Callahan  
Ex-Officio Member

  
Camillo DiCamillo  
Ex-Officio Member

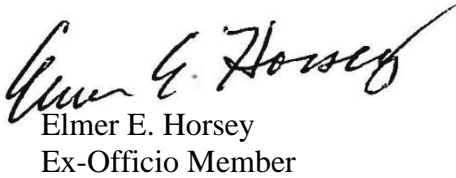
  
Debra Farrar-Dyke  
Member



Jennifer Hill Leineweber  
Member



Thomas Hampton  
Member




Elmer E. Horsey  
Ex-Officio Member



Natasha Iheme  
Member



Barbara Richman Kahn  
Ex-Officio Member



George Littrell  
Member



Lisa Weimin Liu  
Member



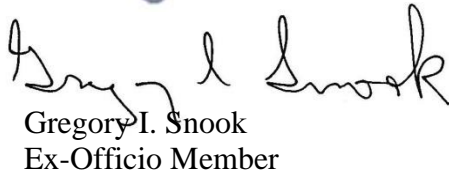
Ben Neil  
Member



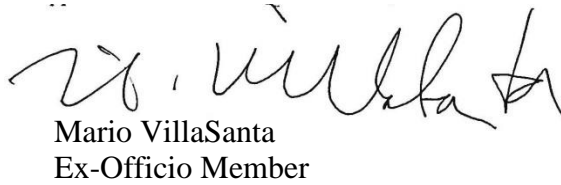
Rizwan Siddiqi  
Member



Gary Simpson  
Ex-Officio Member



Gregory I. Snook  
Ex-Officio Member



Mario VillaSanta  
Ex-Officio Member

cc: Mr. James F. Ports, Jr., Secretary, Maryland Department of Transportation