



Bill: Senate Bill 422: Education – Jobs That Require Driving – Requirements (Drivers Education for Good Jobs Act of 2022)

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Pinsky, Vice-Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee:

The Transportation Association of Maryland is a 501(c)(3) organization representing 104+ member organizations consisting of locally operated transit agencies (LOTS), non-profit transit providers, transportation vendor and transportation supporters with 20,000+ individual members. TAM is the legislative voice and vigilant eyes and ears of the transportation industry in Maryland. TAM's mission is to strengthen community transportation in Maryland through advocacy and professional development.

Our members are struggling to find enough bus drivers to provide the full level of service that allows their customers to access jobs, health care, and the full life of the communities in which they live. Transit agencies across Maryland are dropping routes and cutting services, which can threaten more than just a commute. A driver shortage only compounds the broader labor shortage, as those who don't necessarily ride on transit every day depend on workers who do. The more transit service is cut, the tougher it is for many essential workers.

We fully support Senate Bill 422's efforts to establish a statewide career and technical education pathway to assist potential drivers in securing commercial drivers licenses' and urge a favorable vote.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact John Duklewski at 410-553-4245 or jduklewski@taminc.org.

Sincerely,

John Duklewski
Executive Director, Transportation Association of Maryland