

President Robert Meffley, District 1

Vice President Jackie Gregory, District 5

Councilman William H. Coutz, District 2

Councilman Al Miller, District 3

Councilwoman Donna Culberson, District 4



James Massey
Council Manager

County Council Office
410.996.5201
Fax: 800-865-0587

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY
200 Chesapeake Blvd, Elkton Maryland 21921

February 9, 2022

The Hon. Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
Room 131
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 144 Motor Fuel Tax Rate – Consumer Price Index Adjustment - Repeal
Letter of Support

Dear Chairperson Atterbeary and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

The County Council of Cecil County unanimously supports HB 144 Motor Fuel Tax Rate – Consumer Price Index Adjustment - Repeal. Unfortunately, the hearing on this legislation was held on January 19, 2022, before we were aware of it.

It is our understanding that this legislation will allow the current indexing of the fuel tax rate through 2022 to the CPI, instead of continuing this practice. Beginning in 2023, the fuel tax rate adjustment would no longer be indexed to the Consumer Price Index.

The Council supports this legislation that would require the Comptroller's Office to recommend any adjustment in the fuel tax rate, based on current conditions, including the cost of fuel, environmental impacts and the State's economic conditions of the actual year to be imposed.

If this legislation is not approved, the State will continue to use the CPI to adjust tax rate on motor fuel without factoring current conditions and opportunities to implement innovative process for fuel rate adjustments.

The Cecil County Council respectfully requests that the Ways and Means Committee consider a favorable report on HB 144.

Sincerely;


Robert Meffley
Council President