



February 28th, 2024

Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 841 – FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS – State Procurement – Minority Business Enterprises and Small Business Enterprises – Procurement Forecast and Outreach

Dear Chair Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association (“MTBMA”) has been and continues to serve as the voice for Maryland’s construction transportation industry since 1932. Our association is comprised of 200 members. MTBMA encourages, develops, and protects 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 advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland’s multimodal transportation system.

Senate Bill 1014 would require the Office of Small, Minority and Women Business Affairs shall develop a program that identifies and increases awareness of procurement opportunities for small businesses and assist small businesses in the procurement process.

MTBMA supports this legislation and any legislation aimed at assisting small businesses to participate in procurement opportunities in Maryland. It can often times be harder to compete in the procurement process when you are a smaller company. We simply ask for one additional criteria to be added.

(C)(3) AND ENSURE SMALL BUSINESSES ACCURATELY REFLECT THE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES THEY OFFER TO MAXIMIZE THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROGRAM.

The Office does not break down the categories with enough detail, making it challenging to properly identify what companies offer what services. We just ask that this be fine-tuned to further ensure small businesses have a fair chance to compete.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our amendment request for Senate Bill 1014.

Thank you,

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association