

Maryland Joint Legislative Committee

The Voice of Merit Construction

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TO:

RE:

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APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS FROM:

H.B. 1405- STATE BUDGET-TRANSPORTATION

POSITION: **OPPOSE**

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) opposes H.B. 1405 which is before you today for consideration. The bill is a Constitutional amendment which would change the budget process by allowing the General Assembly to increase appropriation items, and add items, relating to the construction and maintenance of an adequate highway system. It would allow the Governor to veto any new item and create a process for the General Assembly to consider the vetoed items.

The current process for transportation planning and construction has been working well and there is no need for change. If a specific project got caught up in the veto process, it would result in significant delays and additional costs to the taxpayers.

On behalf of the over 1,500 ABC members across the state, we respectfully request an unfavorable report on H.B. 1405.

> Robert Zinsmeister, Director Government Affairs

