



BALTIMORE INDUSTRIAL GROUP

A NON-PROFIT TRADE ORGANIZATION
RECOGNIZED UNDER SECTION 501(c) (6) OF THE IRS CODE 1986
TAX ID NO. 27-2336062

To: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chair
Members, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
The Honorable Clarence K. Lam

January 15, 2020

RE: Senate Bill 41 - **OPPOSE**

The Baltimore Industrial Group (BIG) represents an array of private employers and business organizations involved in manufacturing, transportation, maritime, shipping and warehousing in Baltimore City. We advocate for common sense policies that support industry and job creation. Preserving truck routes in order to facilitate commerce throughout the region is an important goal of our organization. We strongly oppose Senate Bill 41.

In 2019 BIG supported House Bill 6 (HB 6): Baltimore City - Vehicle Height Monitoring Systems - Enforcement with an AMENDMANENT to cap Baltimore City's Vehicle Height Monitoring program at the current 6 moveable cameras it maintains. BIG reasoned that the Baltimore City truck route map cannot be accessed through GPS, the City DOT has not updated truck route signs, and the new monitoring system ensnares more lawful carriers than violators as evidenced by the 65% exoneration rate. BIG further argued that the City Council, despite the 65% exoneration rate, and despite the fact that the City can move the 6 cameras in operation to different areas, is seeking to expand the monitoring system to an unlimited number of cameras and thus a cap is appropriate. The program has produced a net loss for the City. BIG's testimony gave the committee a lot of reservations about the system in general and the legislation was given an unfavorable report.

In order to make moving freight fair for ALL, we urge Baltimore County to create and implement a Truck Route Map, upload it to the major GPS providers and install adequate signage indicating roads permitted and/or not permitted for trucks. Once these investments have been made, testing driver behavior can be looked at BUT penalizing Drivers who are simply following a route provided by a GPS that does not give consideration to jurisdictional road restrictions is simply wrong and will have negative consequences for everyone, including the consumer.

Kind Regards,

Jeff Fraley
Chairman
Baltimore Industrial Group
www.baltimoreindustrialgroup.org