

February 19, 2020

**SUPPORT** 

Delegate Anne R. Kaiser, Chair Ways and Means Committee 251 House Office Building 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

## Re: HOUSE BILL 603 – COUNTY BOARS OF EDUCATION – ESTABLISHING REGIONAL CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION SCHOOLS -AUTHORITY

Dear Chairwoman Kaiser and Committee Members:

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 ask that this committee show unwavering support for HB 603. This bill would provide Maryland students with regional Career and Technical Education schools. By establishing these schools, students will be able to take alternative career routes if they choose, and will ultimately produce more qualified candidates in the technical field. It will also create opportunities for Maryland companies to recruit, employee, and retain Maryland residents into high paying careers. The Interagency Commission on School Construction will provide a State and Local cost-share formula for County boards of education to ensure this venture will be appropriately and fairly funded. With the support of the Commission and this Committee, we will be able to grow job opportunities and provide students who opt for an alternative track a bright future.

We appreciate you taking the time to address this important issue and we urge a favorable report on House Bill 603.

Thank you,

Michael A Salala

Michael Sakata President and CEO Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association