

February 25, 2022

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Environment & Transportation Committee
House Office Building, Room 251,
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD, 21401

RE: HB 402 Department of the Environment – Enforcement Authority

Dear Chairman Barve:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding **HB 402 Department of the Environment – Enforcement Authority**. MBIA **Opposes** the Act in its current version.

This measure would alter the enforcement authority of the Department of the Environment to conduct additional enforcement activities. MBIA respectfully opposes this measure. The measure would require that in the event of a failure to pay a proscribed penalty a lien may be assessed against any property owned by the violator. There is no appeal process outlined in the bill and it is not clear when a person will be declared in violation. MBIA also objects to the assessing of a lien against all owned property and not the areas in violation. This has the potential to assess penalties against properties that are in full compliance.

For these reasons, MBIA respectfully requests the Committee give this measure an unfavorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or lgraf@marylandbuilders.org.

cc: Members of the House Environment & Transportation Committee