

CHAIRMAN:  
Jeff Graf  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
David Slaughter

**MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION**



TREASURER:  
Paul Bramble  
SECRETARY:  
Curtis Hall  
PRESIDENT:  
Tim Smith

January 24, 2024

Delegate C.T. Wilson, Chair  
House Economic Matters Committee  
231 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: HB 244 – UNFAVORABLE – Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Act – Civil Penalties – Alterations**

Dear Chair Wilson and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Asphalt Association (MAA) is comprised of 19 producer members representing more than 48 production facilities, 25 contractor members, 25 consulting engineer firms and 41 other associate members. MAA works proactively with regulatory agencies to represent the interests of the asphalt industry both in the writing and interpretation of state and federal regulations that may affect our members. We also advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland's multimodal transportation system.

House Bill 244 dramatically increases the civil penalties for a violation of Maryland's Occupational Safety and Health program (MOSH). Passage of this bill would more than double the fee for a violation under this program from \$7,000 to \$15,625 for each violation. As an organization there is nothing our members value more than the safety of our employees. Our industry prioritizes safety above all else. Nevertheless, at a time when we are still suffering from slowed growth in our economy and tremendous financial strain, we cannot support a nearly three-time increase of this fee. Similarly, we would oppose the connection of the percentage increase in these penalties to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Our industry is suffering and the burden of these additional costs will cripple our member companies.

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request and for the reasons stated above, we respectfully request an **UNFAVORABLE** report House Bill 244.

Sincerely,

Tim E. Smith, P.E.  
President  
Maryland Asphalt Association

CHAIRMAN:  
Jeff Graf  
VICE CHAIRMAN  
David Slaughter

**MARYLAND ASPHALT ASSOCIATION**



TREASURER:  
Paul Bramble  
SECRETARY:  
Curtis Hall  
PRESIDENT:  
Tim Smith