



March 1, 2024

Delegate Marc Korman, Chair
House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: HB 1008 – UNFAVORABLE – Fossil Fuel Transportation Fee and Mitigation Fund
(Climate Pollution Reduction Fund Act)**

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Committee:

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 proactively work with regulatory agencies and governing bodies to represent the interests of the transportation industry and advocate for adequate state and federal funding for Maryland’s multimodal transportation system.

House Bill 1008 establishes a fossil fuel transportation fee imposed on a carrier who transports fossil fuels in Maryland at a rate equal to 30 cents per million BTUs, which will be distributed into a newly created Fossil Fuel Mitigation Fund.

While our organization appreciates the intent of this legislation and all legislation aimed at protecting our environment, we have serious concerns about how this bill will impact our members and the transportation industry as a whole. This will cripple our transportation industry that relies on natural gas and other means to dry aggregate and produce the materials needed for our roads. With the State’s massive cuts to the transportation budget over the six years, at the very least, resulting in less work for our member companies, how can the legislature pass a bill that will create such heavy taxes at such a challenging time?

We appreciate you taking the time to consider our request for a **UNFAVORABLE** report on HB 1008.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Sakata", written over a thin horizontal line.

Michael Sakata
President and CEO
Maryland Transportation Builders and Materials Association